

"Absolutely flawless." — Comic Watch



STAR WARS™

DARTH VADER

BLACK, WHITE & RED

MARVEL



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STAR WARS™

DARTH VADER

BLACK, WHITE & RED

- #1**
- | | | |
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| "HARD SHUTDOWN PART 1" | "INESCAPABLE" | "DISSOLUTION OF HOPE" |
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PEACH MOMOKO | Writer
TORUNN GRØNBEEK |
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LEONARD KIRK | | Artist
KLAUS JANSON |
| Color Artist
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. | | |
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| "HARD SHUTDOWN PART 2" | "THE ENDLESS MERCY" | "POWER" |
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VICTORIA YING |
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LEONARD KIRK | Artist
ALESSANDRO VITTI | Artist
MARIKA CRESTA |
| Color Artist
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. | | |
- #3**
- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| "HARD SHUTDOWN PART 3" | "ANNIHILATED" | "DIPLOMATIC IMPUNITY" |
| Writer
JASON AARON | Writer/Artist
DANIEL WARREN JOHNSON | Writer
MARC BERNARDIN |
| Artist
LEONARD KIRK | | Artist
STEFANO RAFFAELE |
| Color Artist
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. | | Color Artist
ANDRES MOSSA |
- #4**
- | | | |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| "HARD SHUTDOWN PART 4" | "THE INHABITANT" | "RETURN TO HOTH" |
| Writer
JASON AARON | Writer
STEVE ORLANDO | Writer
FRANK TIERI |
| Penciler
LEONARD KIRK | Artist
PAUL DAVIDSON | Artist
DANNY EARLS |
| Inker
MARK MORALES | | |
| Color Artist
ROMULO FAJARDO JR. | | |

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VC's **JOE CARAMAGNA**

Cover Art
ALEX MALEEV (#1), **ADAM KUBERT** (#2),
MIKE DEL MUNDO (#3) & **TAURIN CLARKE** (#4)



The Outer Rim. The Horox system.
Abandoned ore-mining moon HS-197.

"HARD SHUTDOWN part 1"

Jason Aaron - writer • Leonard Kirk - artist
Romulo Fajardo Jr. - colorist



REST ASSURED, IT WILL BE I ALONE WHO KILLS YOU.

IF YOU DO NOT TELL ME WHAT YOU KNOW.

IMMEDIATELY.



SO YOU DO REMEMBER DOCTOR SENDVALL. ENOUGH THAT THE MENTION OF HIS NAME BRINGS YOU RUNNING.

HE CERTAINLY NEVER FORGOT ABOUT YOU, VADER.

BUT AS I SAID IN THE MESSAGE, MY INFORMATION WILL COST YOU. WHAT'D YOU BRING FOR PAYMENT?



HHHGGHK!



GAAGH!

I HAVE JUST PAID YOU WITH YOUR OWN LIFE. THERE WILL BE NO FURTHER PAYMENTS.

TELL ME WHERE SENDVALL IS HIDING.



HE'S NOT HIDING. HE'S GOT A MARKER WITH HIS NAME ON IT. IN THE GRAVEYARD RIGHT OUT BACK.

I SHOULD KNOW--I BURIED HIM MYSELF. WHAT MORE COULD A GOOD SON DO?

HEH, YOU'RE REALLY HIM ALL RIGHT. HAD TO BE SURE.



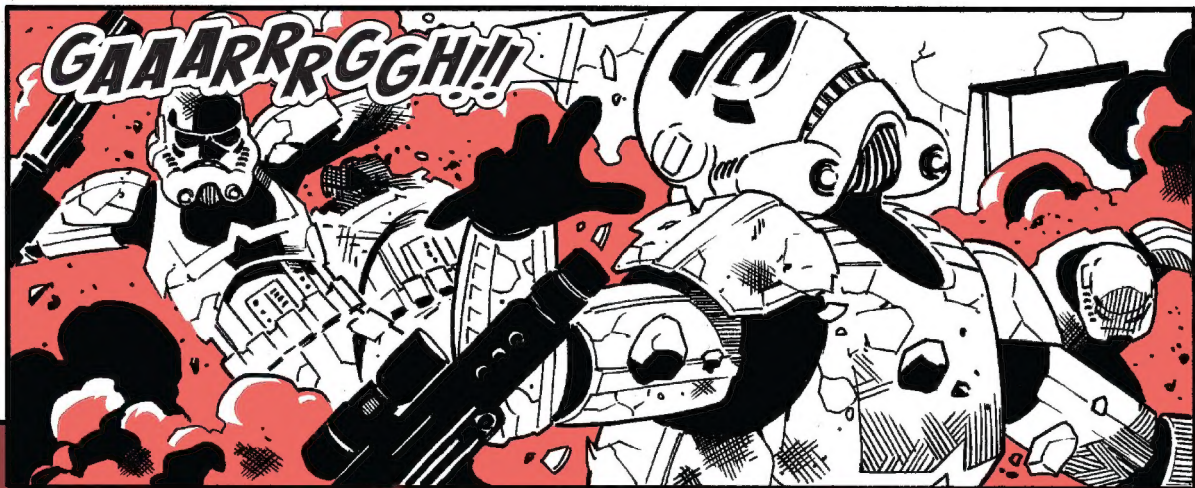
THEN LET US DISPENSE WITH THIS CHARADE AND GET ON WITH THE REBEL AMBUSH.

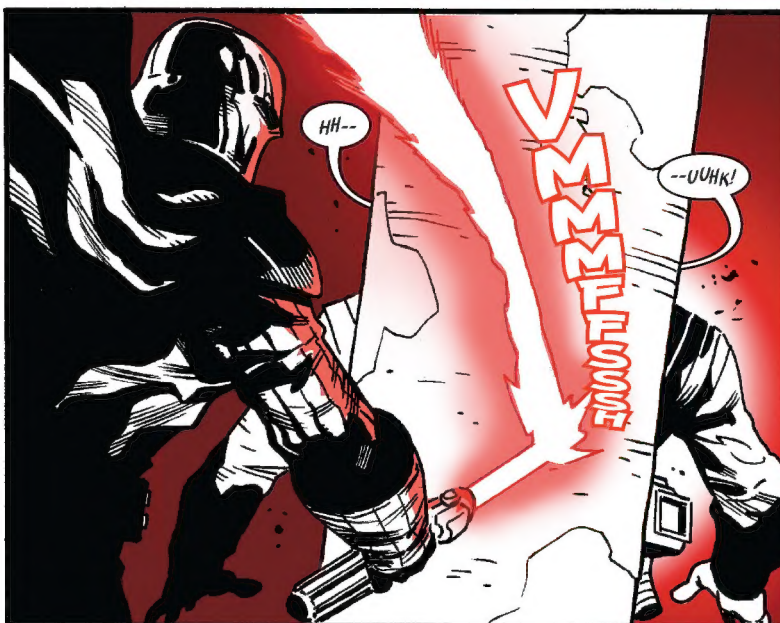
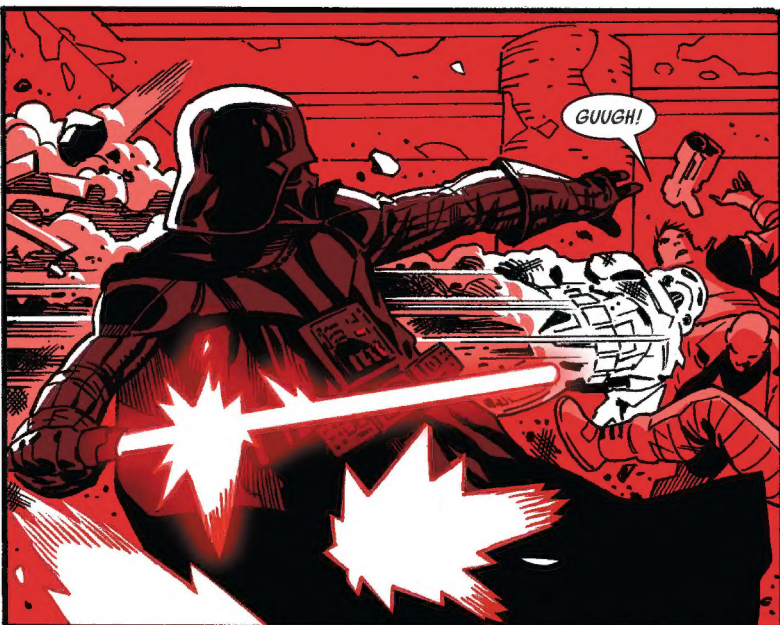
VMMMM

YOU'RE HALF RIGHT, BIG FELLA.



WE AINT REBELS.







THIS IS CYN.
BELIEVE IT OR NOT,
IT WORKED.

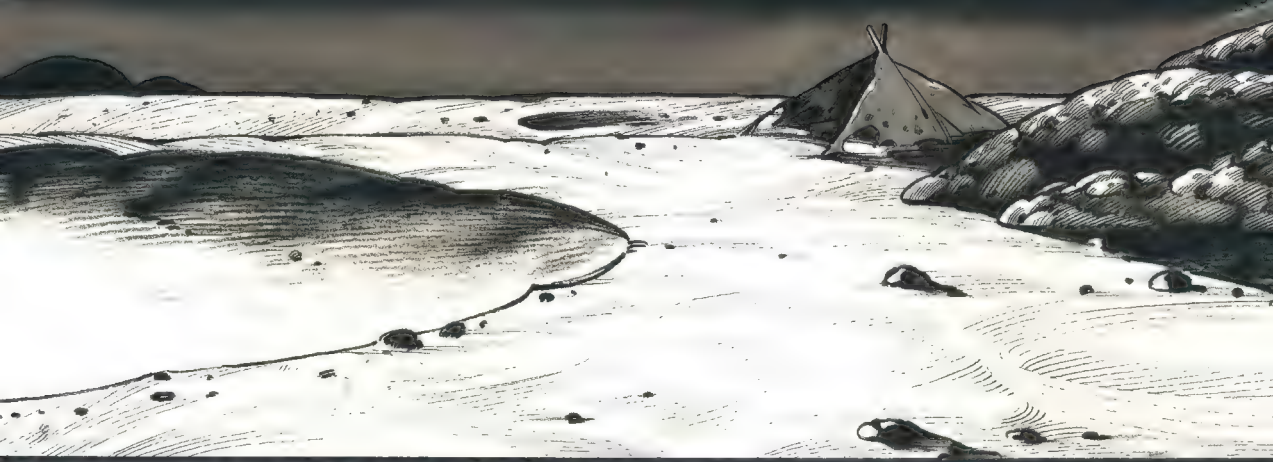
FULL
SHUTDOWN
HAS BEEN
ACHIEVED.

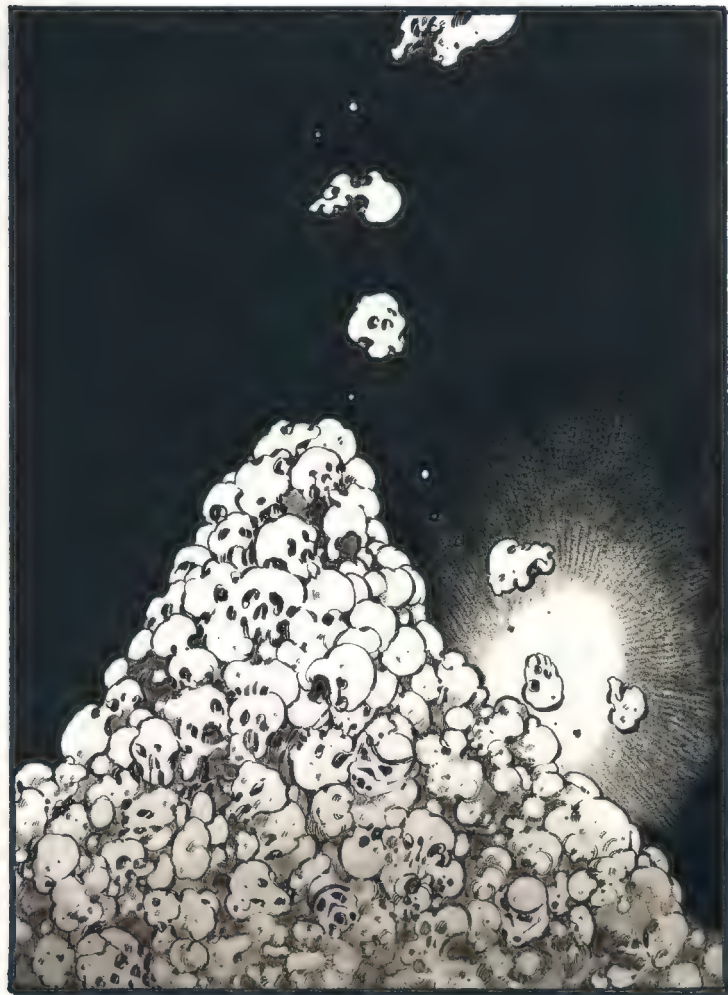
I'M LEAVING
NOW WITH THE
CARGO. READY THE
CHOP SHOP.

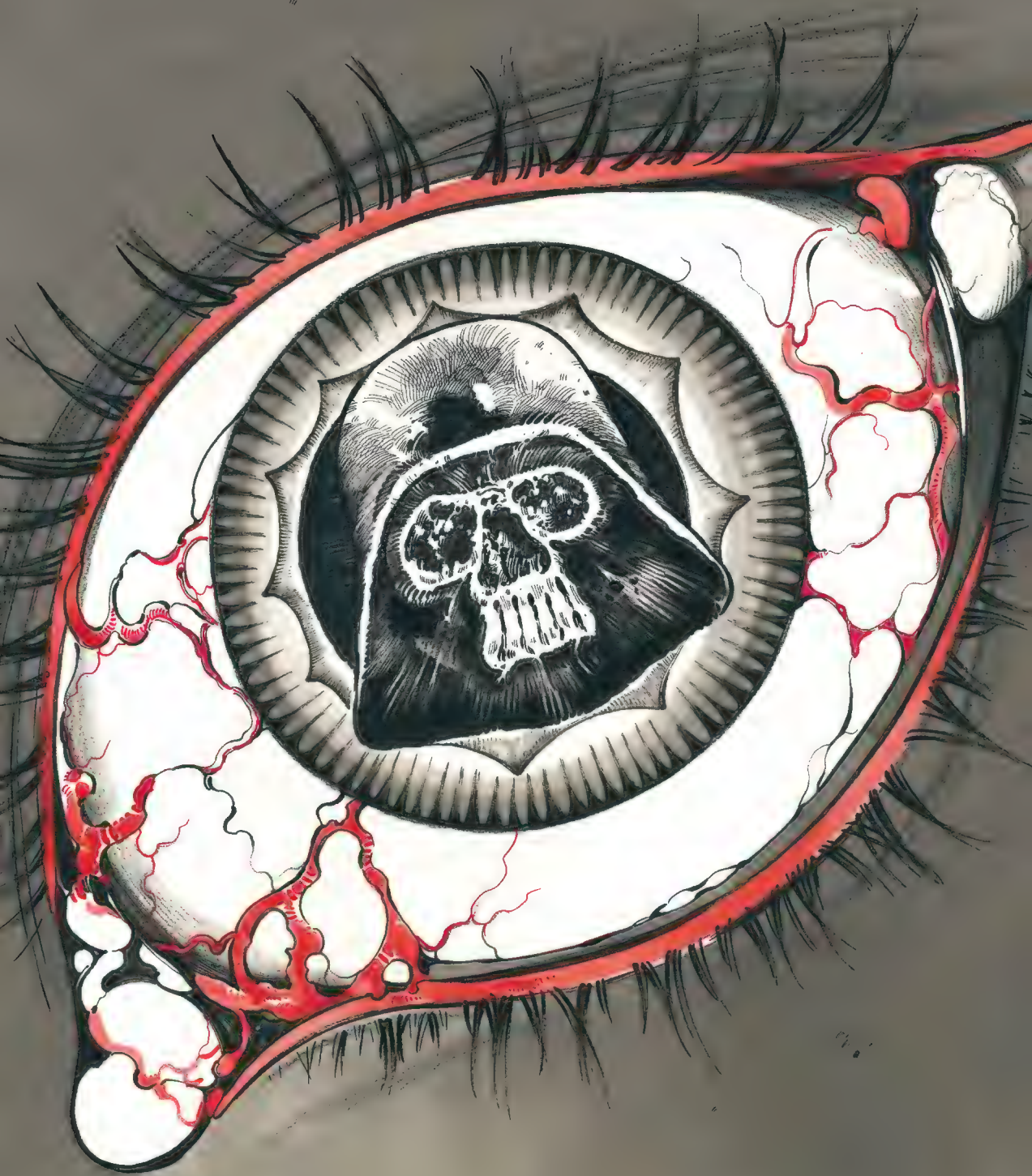
MAKE
SURE THE SAWS
ARE FULLY
CHARGED.

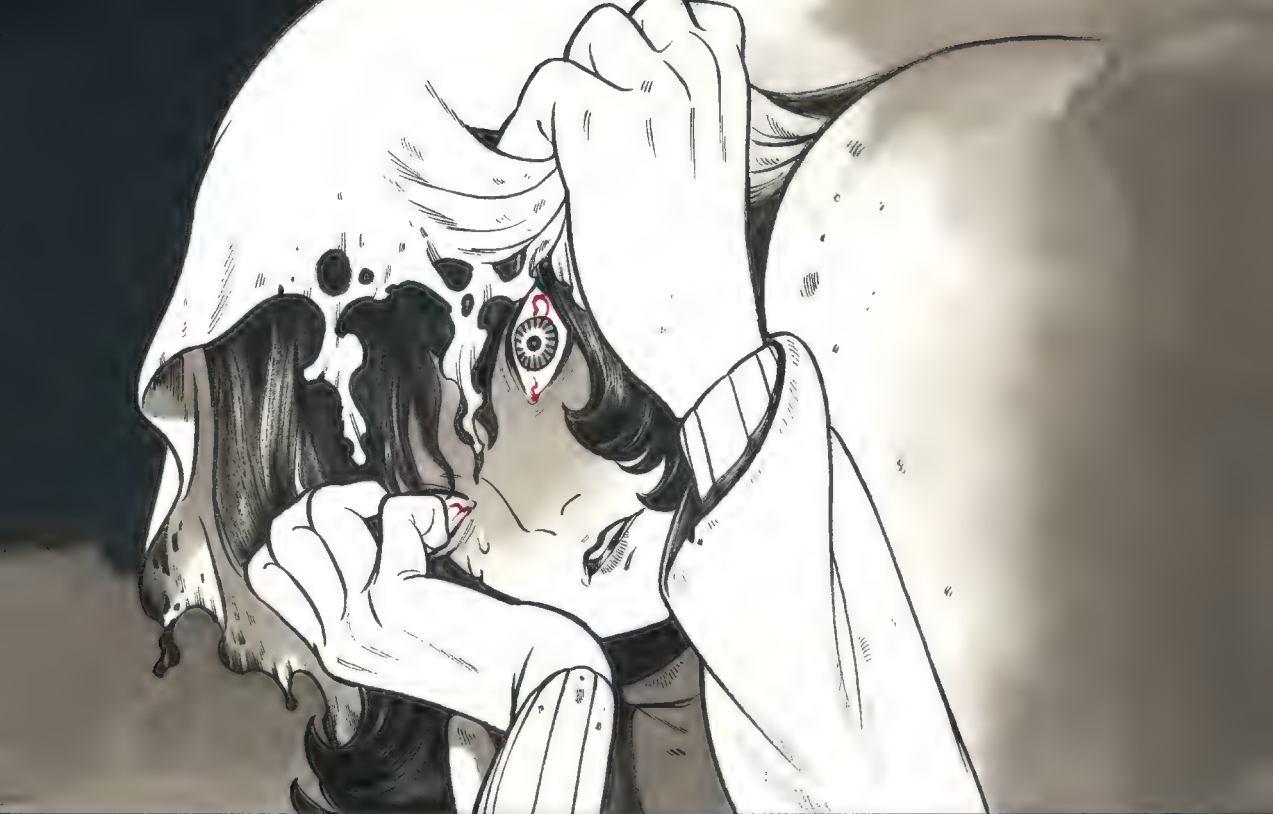


"INESCAPABLE"
by Peach Momoko

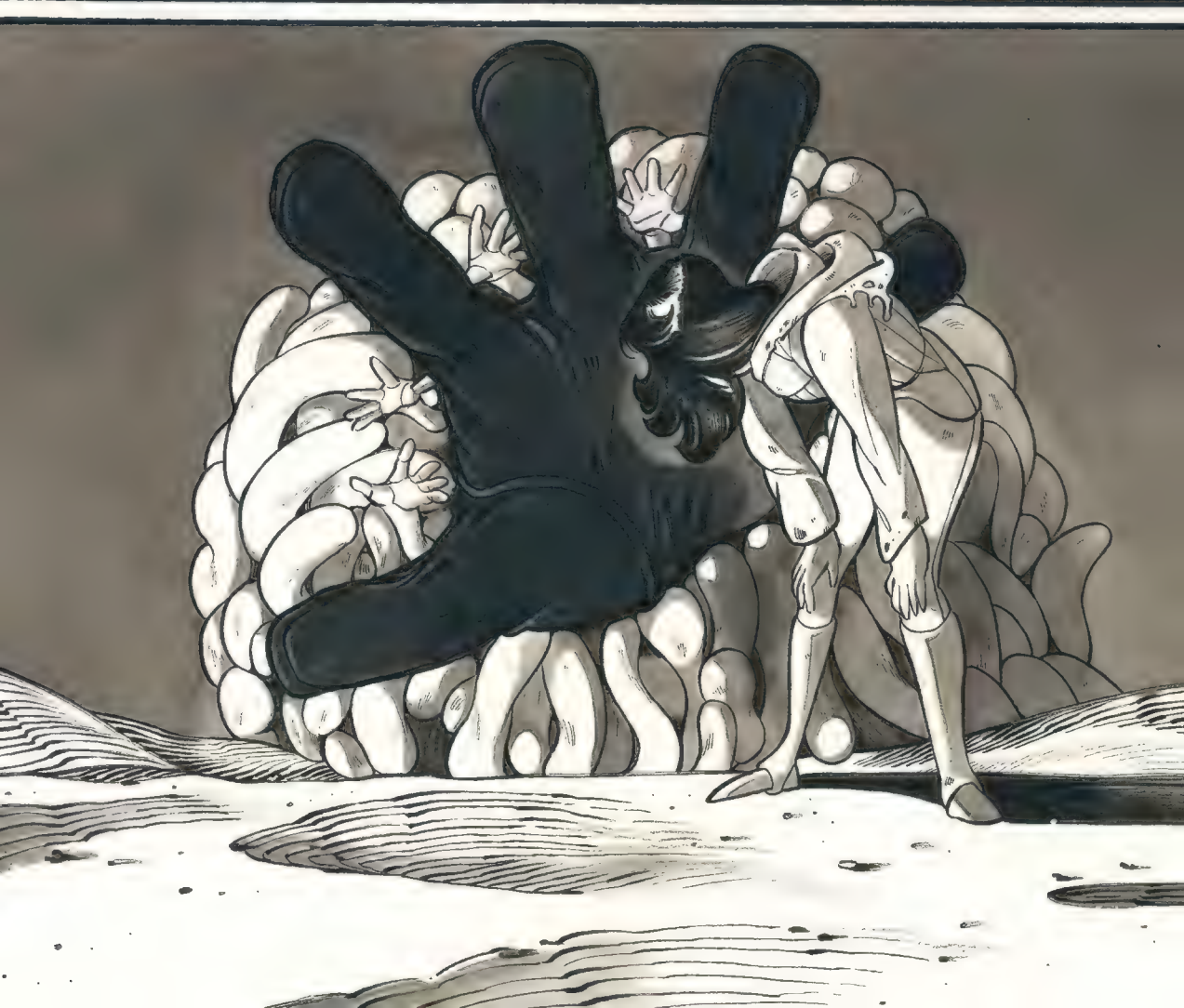
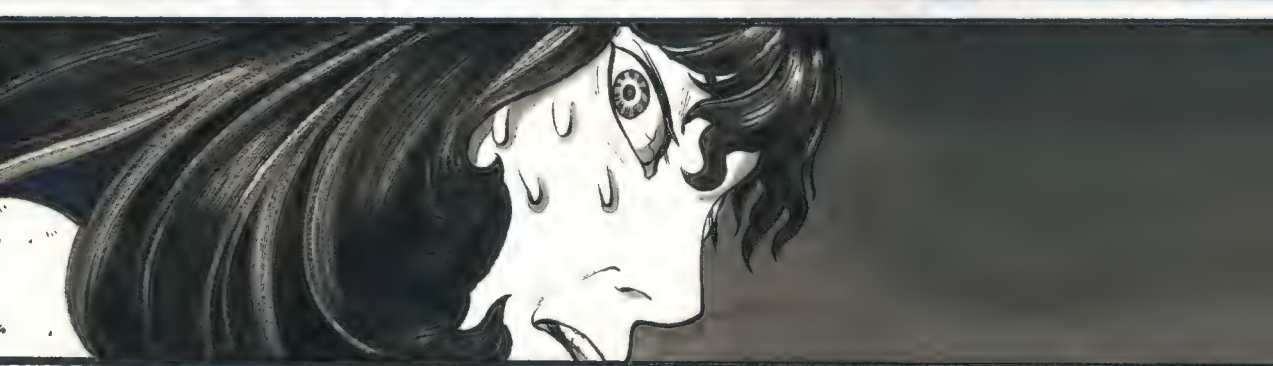


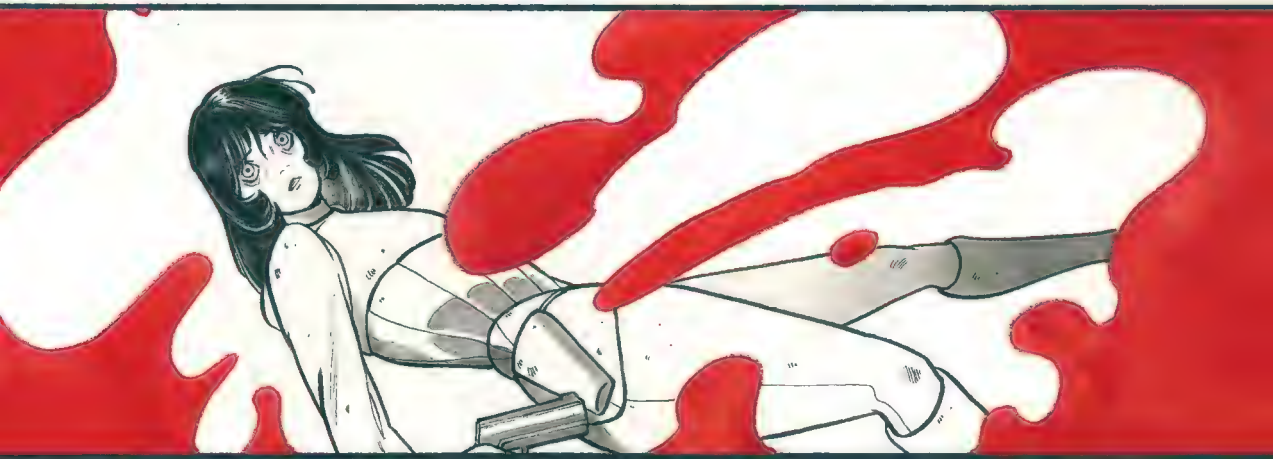




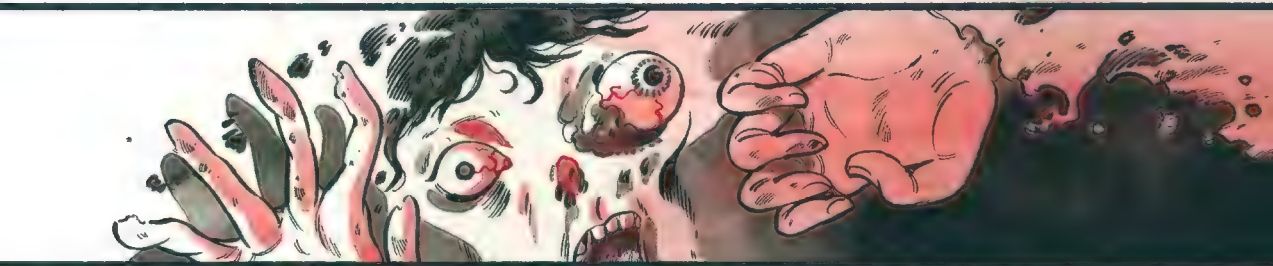
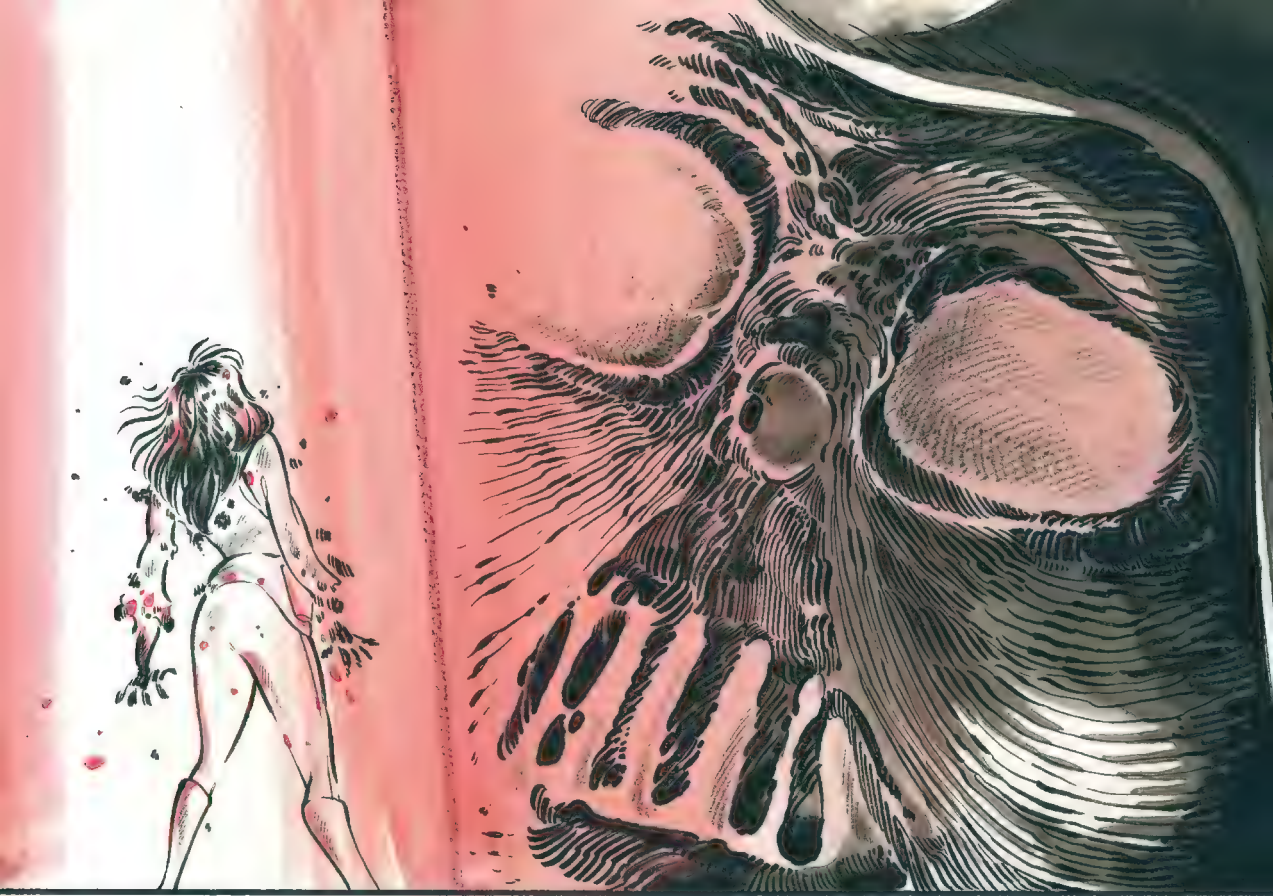




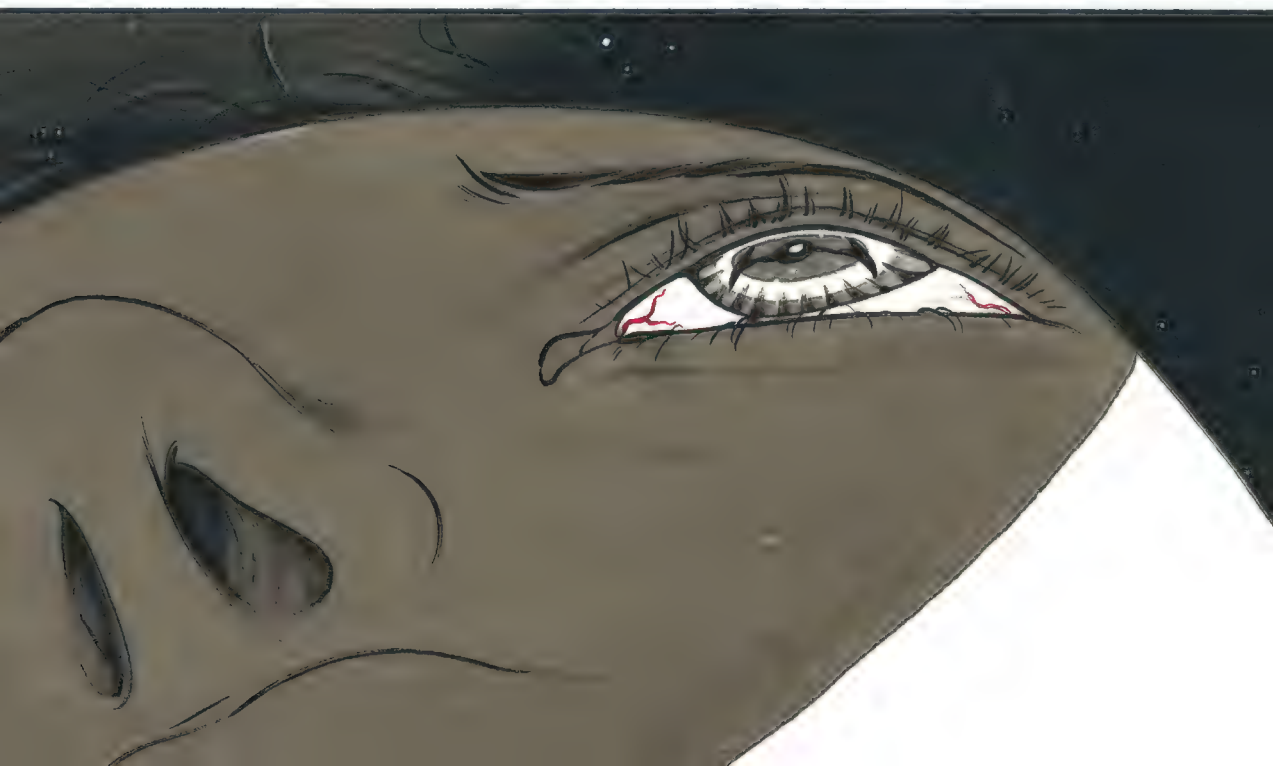


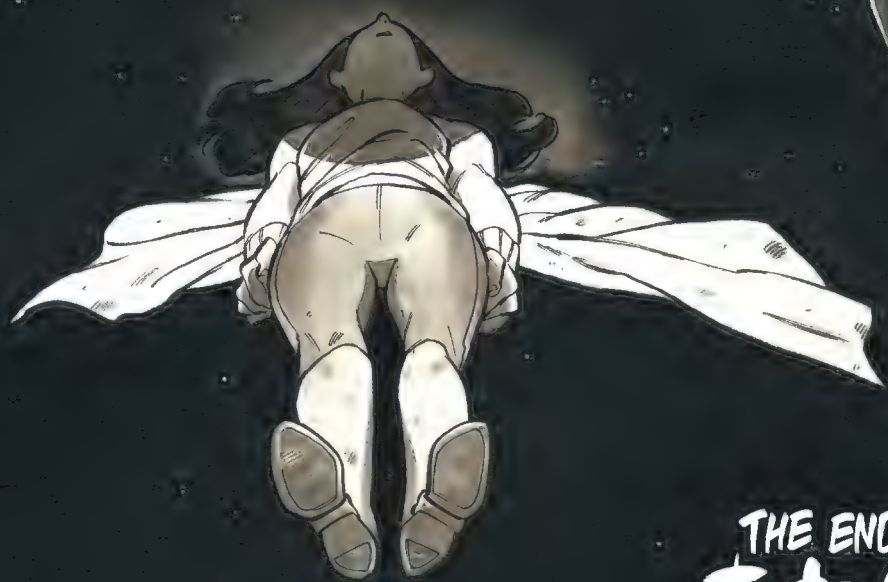












THE END
おわり

Torku.

AN ORGANIZATION IS
ONLY AS GOOD AS
ITS WEAKEST POINT.

--A LOCAL
CUSTOM.

THE TI-KEN
BEGIN THE WORK
AS SOON AS THEY
CAN HOLD A
NEEDLE.

"Dissolution of Hope"

Torunn Grønbekk - writer
Klaus Janson - artist

BY THE TIME THEY REACH
MARRIAGEABLE AGE, THEIR
TAPESTRIES ARE FILLED WITH
SIGNIFICANT EVENTS FROM THEIR
LIVES, STITCHED WITH INCREASING
PRECISION AND ARTISTIC
UNDERSTANDING.

AND THERE IS
ALWAYS A
WEAK POINT.

DURING THE WEDDING
CEREMONY, THEY PRESENT IT
TO THEIR PARTNER, THE
GIFT OF A LIFE.

LIKE A DIARY
DRAWN IN SILK. A
RATHER TOUCHING
TRADITION WHEN YOU
THINK ABOUT IT.

USEFUL
IF YOU'RE
ILLITERATE,
I SUPPOSE.

THIS IS THE
SIXTEENTH YEAR.
ADOLESCENCE IS THE
MOST SOUGHT-AFTER
PERIOD... EXQUISITE
NEEDLEWORK, IF
COSTLY...

MOST
COMMONLY--

HUSBAND! YOU
HAVE KEPT US
WAITING.

--A MAN.





CAN YOU SMELL FLOWERS?

WHY DOES IT SMELL LIKE FLOWERS HERE?



IS HE GOING TO BE OKAY?

BREATHE.



THEY ARE BEHIND SCHEDULE.

WHY ARE THEY BEHIND SCHEDULE?!

I NEED YOU TO BREATHE, DAVGAR. AND REMEMBER... WE DIED LONG AGO.



BRINGING HIM IS A TERRIBLE IDEA.

SAID IT FROM THE BEGINNING.

DO YOU KNOW HOW TO REPROGRAM A C3-42? DO YOU KNOW HOW TO ARM--?

SILENCE!



HE IS THE MISSION, BAZER. WE ARE NOTHING WITHOUT HIM.

SORRY, BOSS.

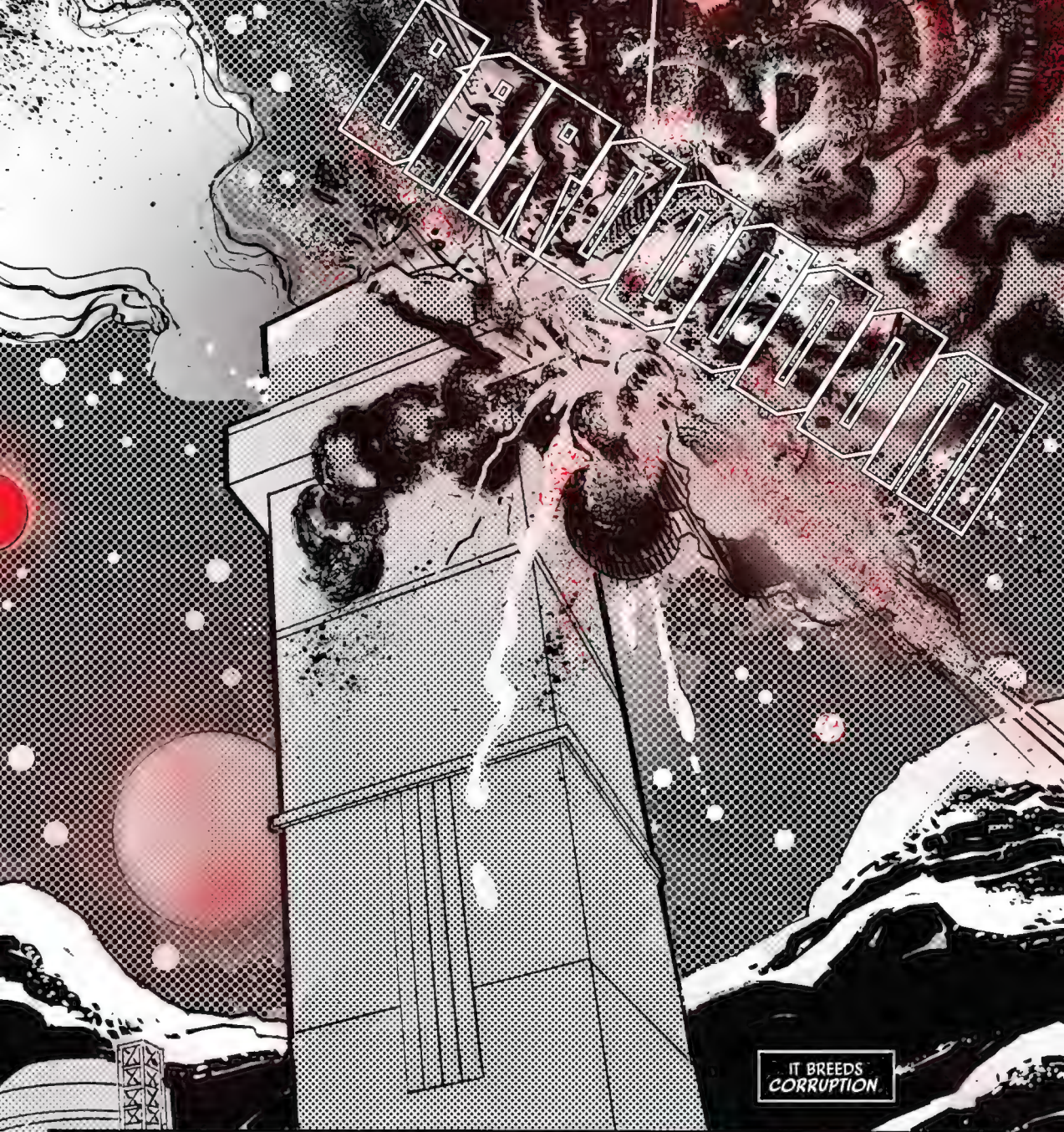
DIED LONG AGO. DIED LONG AGO.

THE BASE ON TORKU HAS MANY WEAKNESSES.



COME ON.

THEY ALL BEGIN WITH INDIFFERENCE.



IT BREEDS
CORRUPTION.



VIOLENCE.

THEY
DID IT.

THEY
BLOODY
WELL DID
IT.



WAIT.

WE WAIT
FOR THE
SIGNAL.

AND
OPPORTUNITY.

HAD SAFETY BEEN A CONCERN, THEY WOULD NOT HAVE BROUGHT TOGETHER THE MOST PROMINENT CITIZENS IN THE GALAXY IN ONE LOCATION.

PLEASE!

IF IT IS VADER YOU WANT, I CAN TAKE YOU TO HIM.

OR CREDITS? I CAN GET YOU INTO THE BASE... DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?!

WHATEVER THEIR REASON--

PLEA--

YOU USE YOUR LAST WORDS TO BETRAY EVERYTHING YOU HAVE WORKED FOR.

HOW CAN SOMEONE WHO FEELS SO LITTLE BUILD SOMETHING SO BIG?

--VANITY--

--LAZINESS--

AAA--AAAA--
AAAAHH!

--CARELESS
ARROGANCE--

I GOT IT.

--THEY GOT WHAT THEY DESERVED.

IT IS ANOTHER PREDICTABLE MISTAKE.

WE GOT IT.

WAS HE THERE?

NO.

GOOD.

"GOOD"? WHAT DO YOU MEAN "GOOD"?

HEY! WHAT THE--?

WHO... WHO ARE YOU?

RUBIN

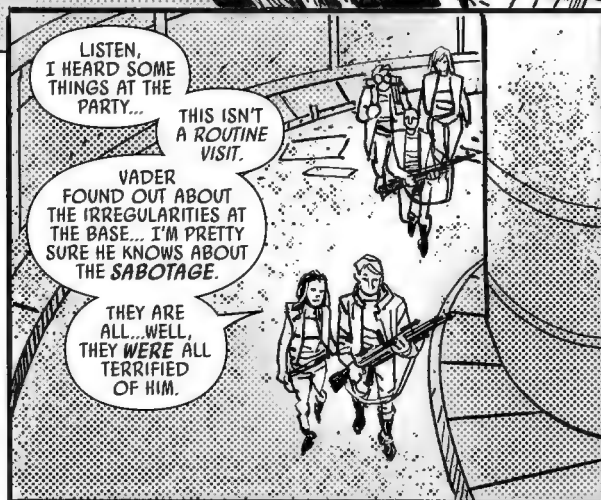
A comic book panel depicting a chaotic scene in a hallway. On the left, four soldiers in tactical gear are running towards the right. The soldier in the lead is firing a large, futuristic red energy weapon. A bright red energy beam or explosion is visible in the center of the frame. To the right, a man in a dark suit is being thrown back by the force of the energy weapon, flying through the air. A speech bubble from the soldier firing the weapon reads: "WHAT?! NO ONE IS SUPPOSED TO BE--". The background shows a hallway with a door and some debris on the floor.



REMEMBER
WHAT WE'RE
HERE FOR.

YEAH, BUT...
HE WASN'T
SUPPOSED TO
BE DOWN
HERE.

DON'T
LOOK, DAVGAR.
JUST KEEP
WALKING.

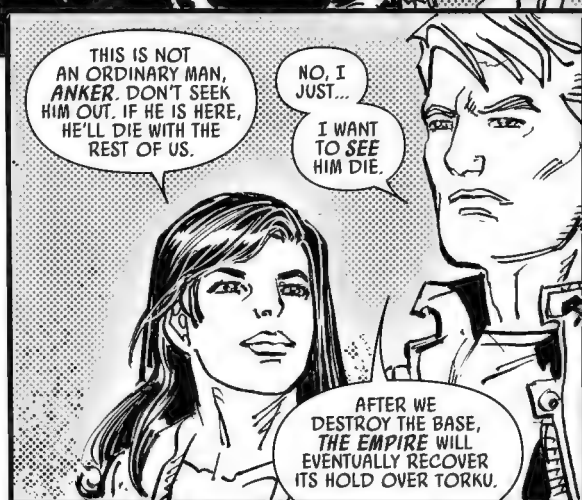


LISTEN,
I HEARD SOME
THINGS AT THE
PARTY...

THIS ISN'T
A ROUTINE
VISIT.

VADER
FOUND OUT ABOUT
THE IRREGULARITIES
AT THE BASE... I'M PRETTY
SURE HE KNOWS ABOUT
THE SABOTAGE.

THEY ARE
ALL... WELL,
THEY WERE ALL
TERRIFIED
OF HIM.

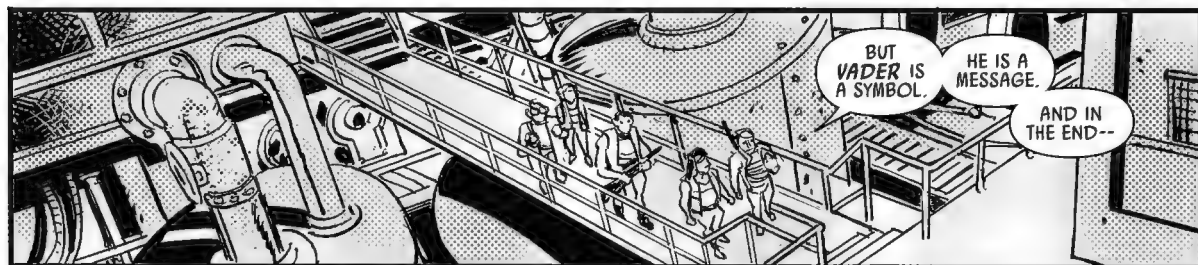


THIS IS NOT
AN ORDINARY MAN,
ANKER. DON'T SEEK
HIM OUT. IF HE IS HERE,
HE'LL DIE WITH THE
REST OF US.

NO, I
JUST...

I WANT TO
SEE HIM DIE.

AFTER WE
DESTROY THE BASE,
THE EMPIRE WILL
EVENTUALLY RECOVER
ITS HOLD OVER TORKU.



BUT
VADER IS
A SYMBOL.

HE IS A
MESSAGE.

AND IN
THE END--



--HE IS
JUST A MAN,
FALL.

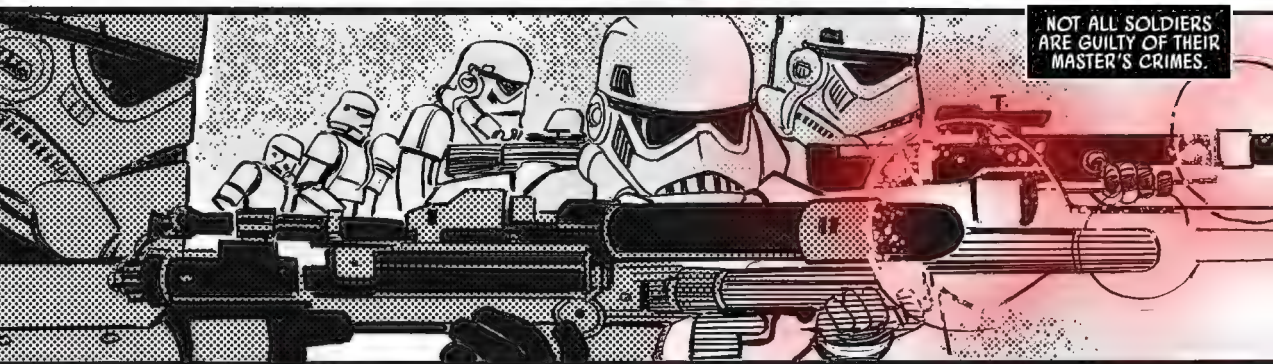
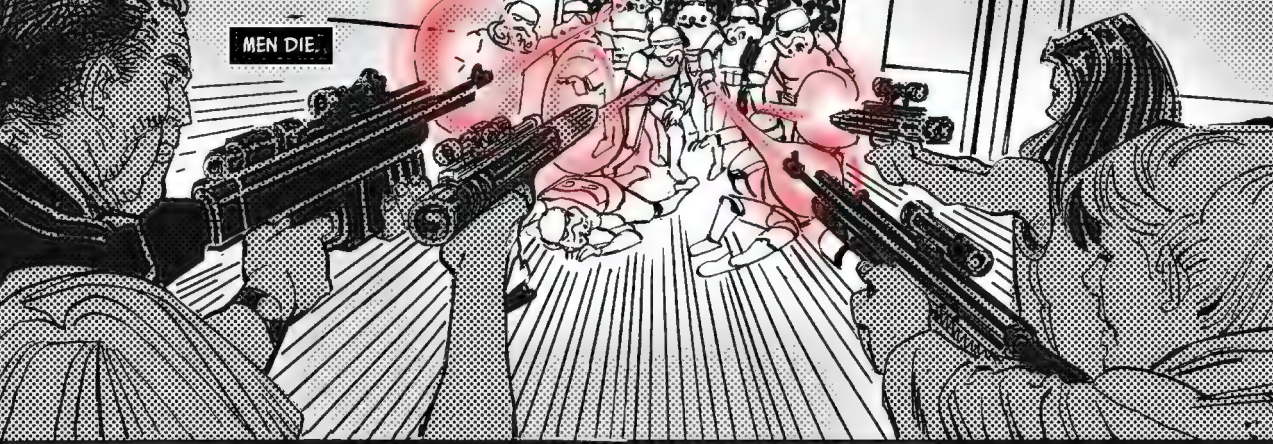
MEN
DIE.

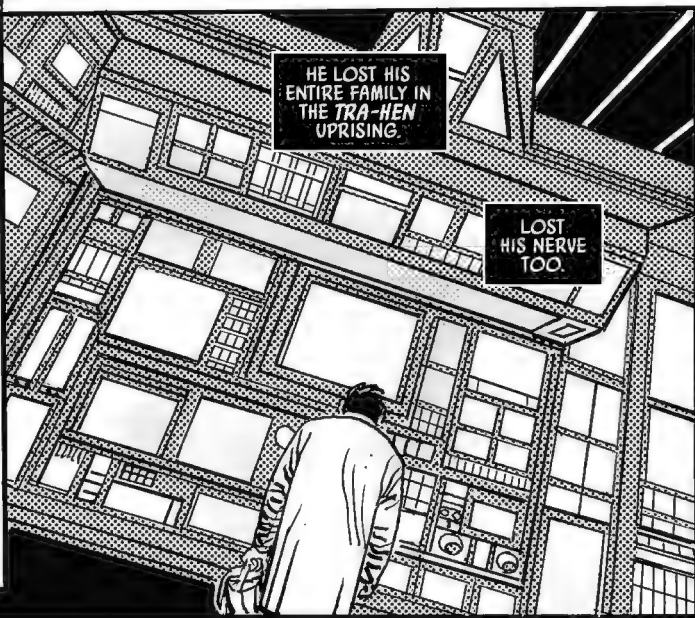


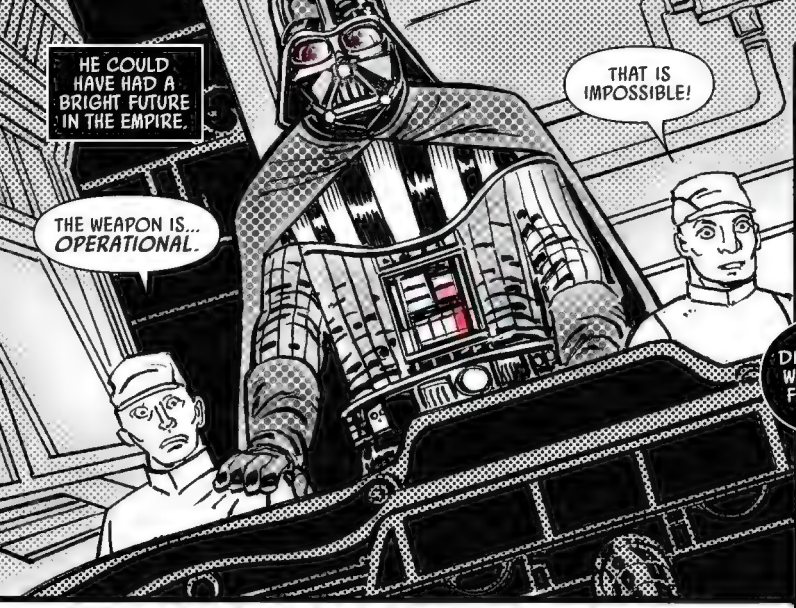
THIS IS IT.
REMEMBER,
NO FEAR--

--FOR WE'RE
ALREADY DEAD.
GREAT PEP TALK,
ANKER.

FIRST DOOR
TO THE LEFT. FIRST
DOOR TO THE LEFT.
FIRST DOOR TO
THE LEFT.







HE COULD
HAVE HAD A
BRIGHT FUTURE
IN THE EMPIRE.

THE WEAPON IS...
OPERATIONAL.

THAT IS
IMPOSSIBLE!

THEN HE
DID IN A MINUTE
WHAT YOU HAVE
FAILED TO DO
IN A YEAR.

BUT HE
CHOSE
HIS SIDE.



HE IS
TARGETING
THE BASE!

I CANNOT
OVERRIDE IT
FROM HERE.

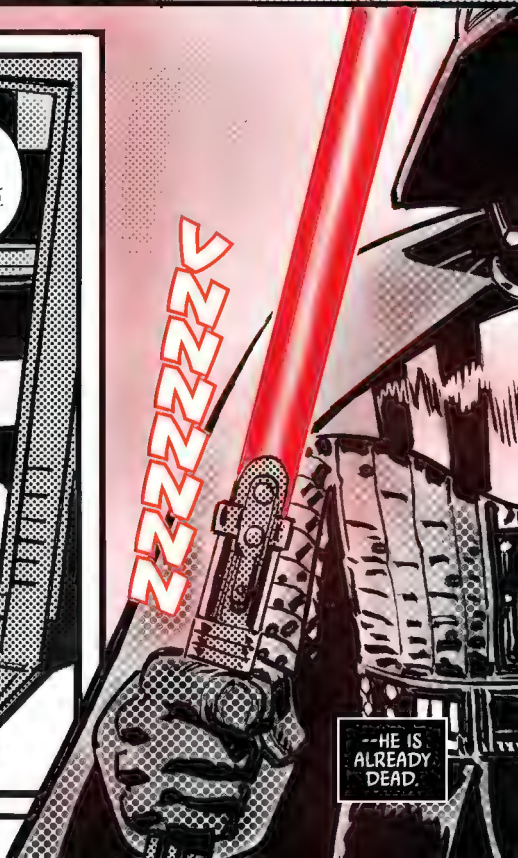
I ADMIRE HIS DEVOTION, EVEN
IF IT IS WHOLLY MISPLACED.



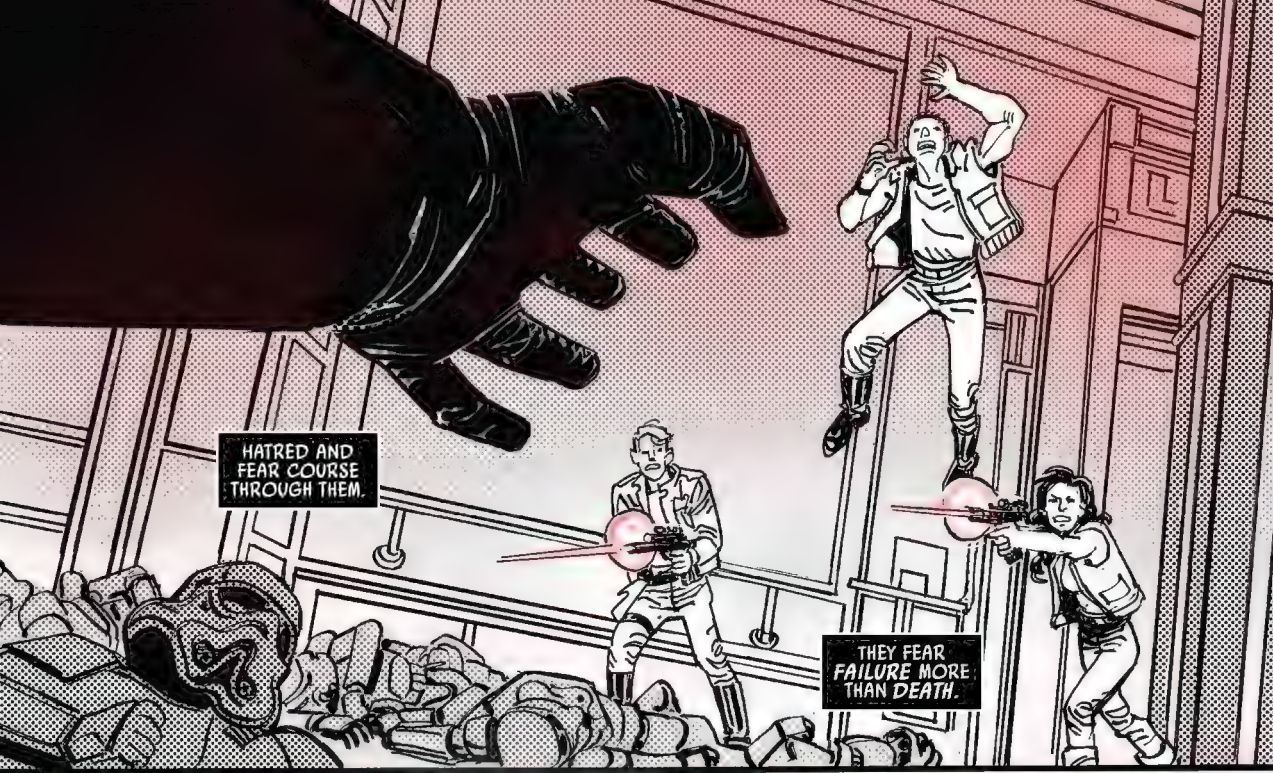
THE WEAPON
IS ARMED.

FEAR NOT,
FOR WE ARE
ALREADY DEAD.
WE DIED WITH THEM.
WE DIED LONG AGO.
WE DIED LONG AGO.

HE IS CORRECT
ABOUT ONE THING
THOUGH--

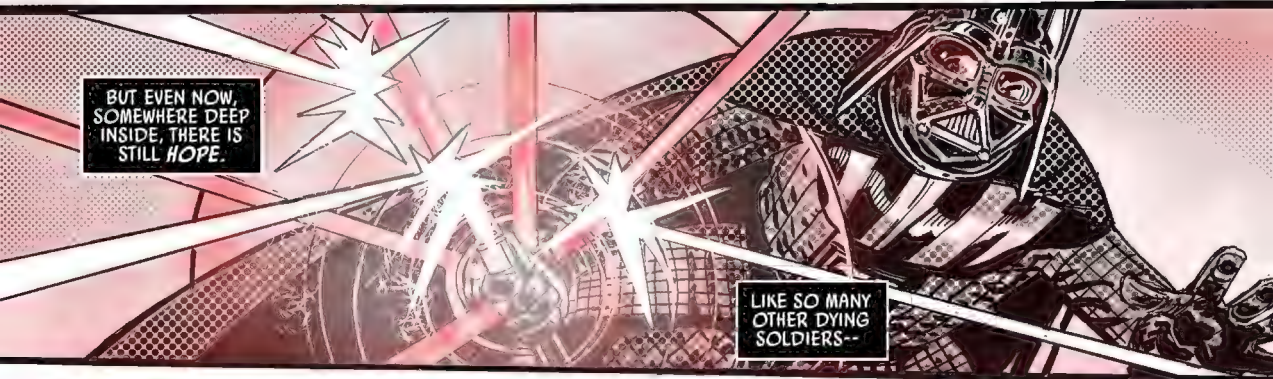


--HE IS
ALREADY
DEAD.



HATRED AND
FEAR COURSE
THROUGH THEM.

THEY FEAR
FAILURE MORE
THAN DEATH.



BUT EVEN NOW,
SOMEWHERE DEEP
INSIDE, THERE IS
STILL HOPE.

LIKE SO MANY
OTHER DYING
SOLDIERS--



--THEY
HOPE FOR A
MIRACLE.



THEY HOPE
FOR MERCY.





#1 Variant by
GABRIELE DELL'OTTO



The Outer Rim. The Horox system.
Abandoned ore-mining
moon HS-197.

"HI. YOU RECEIVING ME
ALL RIGHT? IF THINGS ARE
FEELING A BIT HAZY, LET ME
HELP YOU GET YOURSELF
RECOMBOBULATED."

MY FATHER,
DOCTOR VIG SENDVALL,
WAS A RENOWNED **CYBERNETIC
SURGEON** WHEN HE WAS
REQUISITIONED BY THE EMPIRE TO
SERVE ON THE SECRET TEAM OF
SCIENTISTS WHO WOULD GIVE
BIRTH TO THE GALAXY'S
GREATEST WEAPON.

YOU.

HE SPOKE
OF YOU WITH
SUCH PRIDE.

YOUR SYSTEMS
WERE PERFECT, HE SAID.
INCORRUPTIBLE.
UNREACHABLE.

HE SAID THESE
THINGS WHILE HE
CARVED ME APART,
TRYING TO MAKE ME
MORE LIKE YOU.

ONE DAY,
WHEN I WAS 12,
AND HE WAS REPLACING
MY FINGER BONES WITH
DURASTEEL RODS,
I DECIDED I WOULD
MAKE IT MY LIFE'S
WORK...

...TO RUIN
HIS.

"HARD SHUTDOWN part 2"

Jason Aaron - writer • Leonard Kirk - artist
Romulo Fajardo Jr. - colorist



I DID WHAT FATHER SAID WAS IMPOSSIBLE, LORD VADER.

I OBSESSED OVER HIS BLUEPRINTS AND WORK JOURNALS UNTIL I FOUND THE TINIEST OF FLAWS IN YOUR SYSTEMS. AND FIGURED OUT HOW TO EXPLOIT THEM.

YOUR MOTOR FUNCTIONS HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY NEUTRALIZED. BUT YOUR NEURAL RECEPTORS REMAIN ACTIVE.

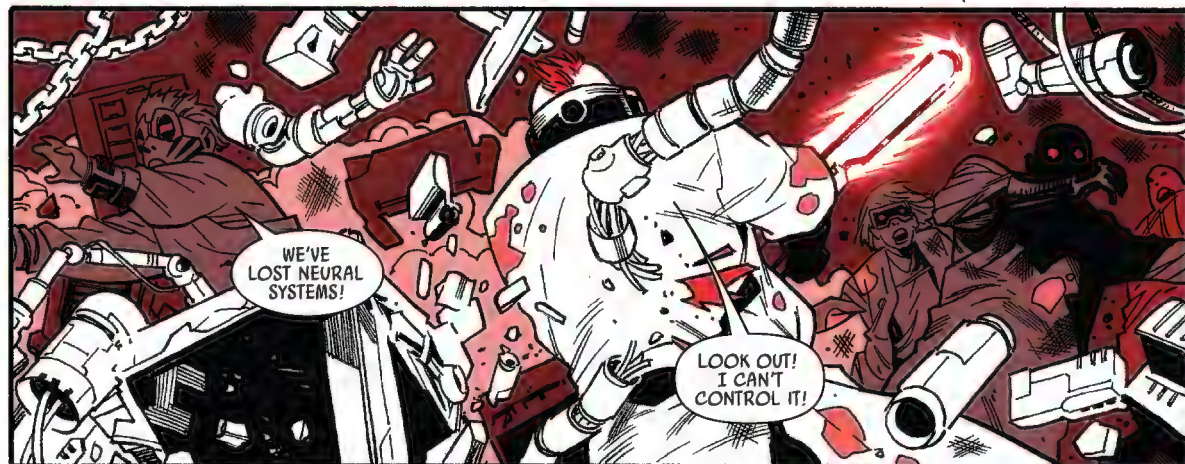
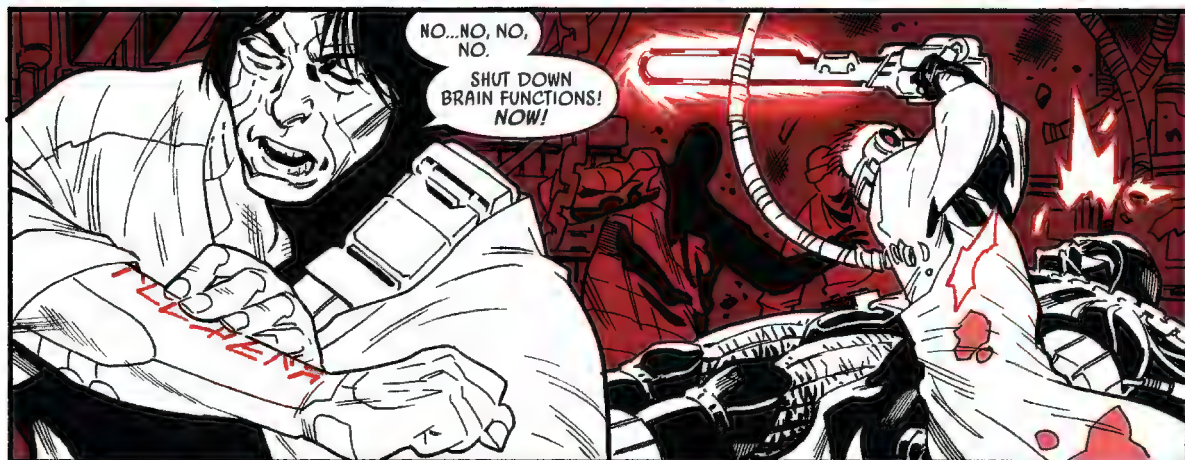
THAT MEANS YOU CAN HEAR ME. AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY...



...YOU CAN FEEL WHAT'S ABOUT TO BE DONE TO YOU...



...AS WE CARVE YOU UP AND SELL YOU FOR PARTS TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER.









WHAT HAPPENED?!
HE...HE WOKE UP?
VADER IS
ACTIVE?!

NEGATIVE. PROTOCOLS
REMAIN INTACT. I'M STILL
NEUTRALIZING HIS MOTOR
FUNCTIONS FROM
HERE.

SET UP A PERIMETER OUT
OF RANGE OF HIS FORCE
POWERS.



IF PROTOCOLS ARE SO INTACT, THEN
WHY IS OUR ENTIRE CREW IN THERE
SCREAMING?!

YOU SAID
HE WOULD BE
IMMOBILIZED!

HE IS!



"SO YOU MEAN...HE
DID ALL OF THIS..."

"...TURNED OUR
CHOP SHOP INTO A
SLAUGHTERHOUSE..."

"...WITHOUT SO
MUCH AS LIFTING
A FINGER?"



"HE'S
DARTH
VADER."

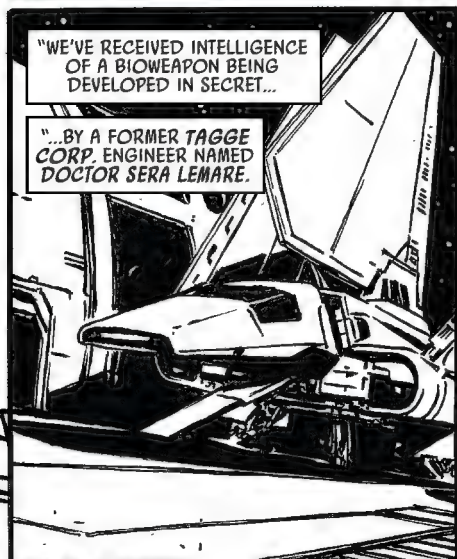
"HE'S EXACTLY
WHAT MY FATHER
BUILT HIM TO BE."

"BUT SO AM I.
LET'S GET TO
WORK."



"MILORD...WE'VE
FOUND THE SHIP."

"PHIAL-CLASS HEAVY
TRANSPORT--DESIGNATED
THE ENDLESS MERCY."

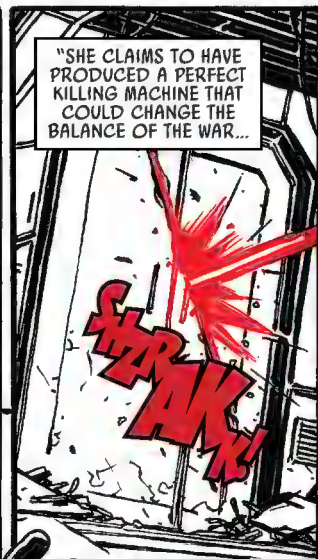


"WE'VE RECEIVED INTELLIGENCE
OF A BIOWEAPON BEING
DEVELOPED IN SECRET..."

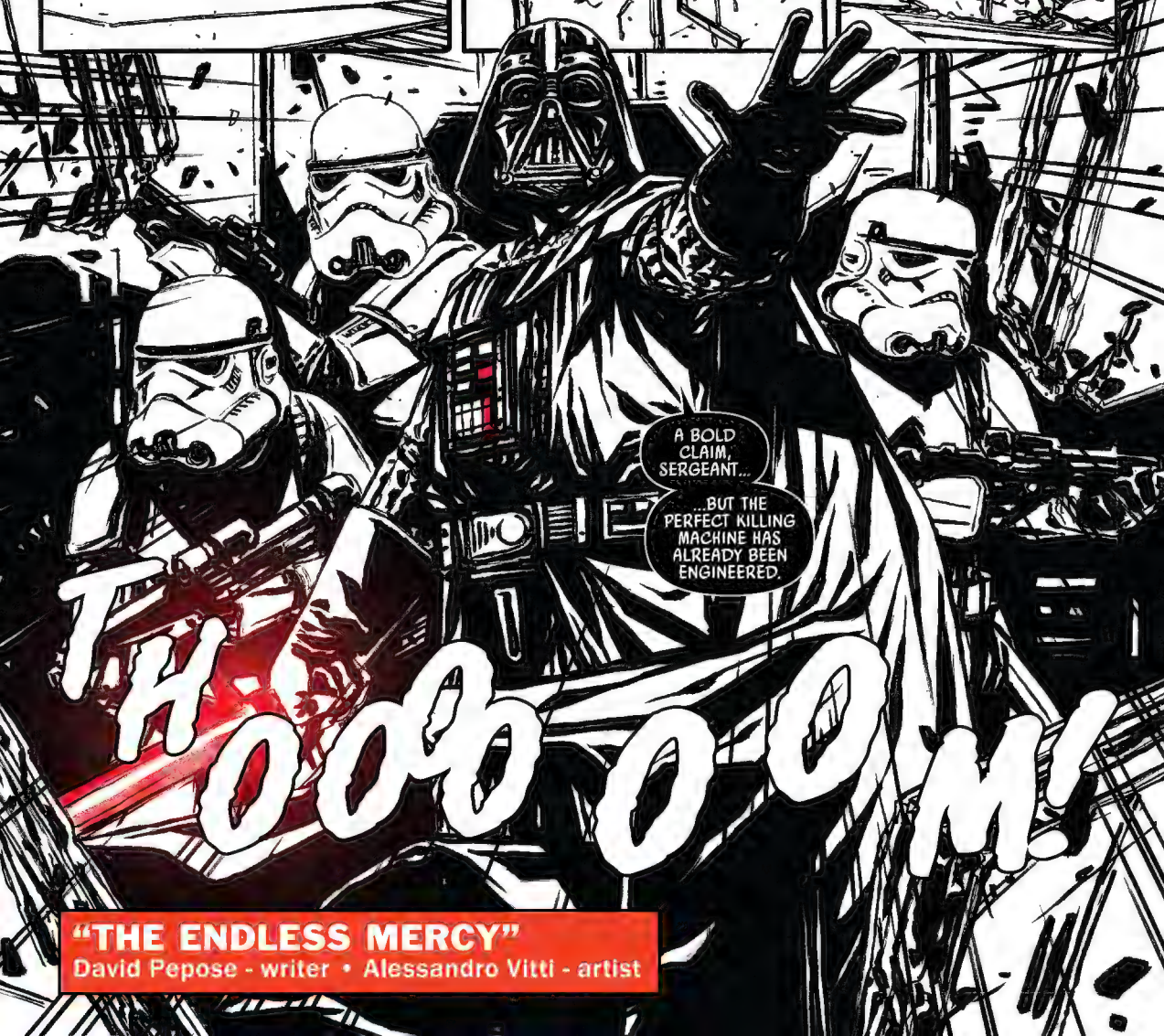
"...BY A FORMER TAGGE
CORP. ENGINEER NAMED
DOCTOR SERA LEMARE."



"AN ADMIRER OF KAMINOAN
TECHNOLOGY, LEMARE RECENTLY
ESCAPED WITH A CACHE OF
STOLEN GENETIC SPECIMENS."



"SHE CLAIMS TO HAVE
PRODUCED A PERFECT
KILLING MACHINE THAT
COULD CHANGE THE
BALANCE OF THE WAR..."



A BOLD
CLAIM,
SERGEANT...

...BUT THE
PERFECT KILLING
MACHINE HAS
ALREADY BEEN
ENGINEERED.

THOOOON!

"THE ENDLESS MERCY"

David Pepose - writer • Alessandro Vitti - artist



LORD VADER--WHAT ARE YOUR ORDERS?

LIFE SUPPORT IS AT 27 PERCENT--THE SHIP'S NAVIGATION SYSTEMS HAVE BEEN OFFLINE FOR DAYS.

STAY VIGILANT AND SECURE THE AREA...



THERE ARE CLEARLY OTHERS AFTER HER RESEARCH.



WHAT THE--?



NO-- SOMETHING'S GOT ME!

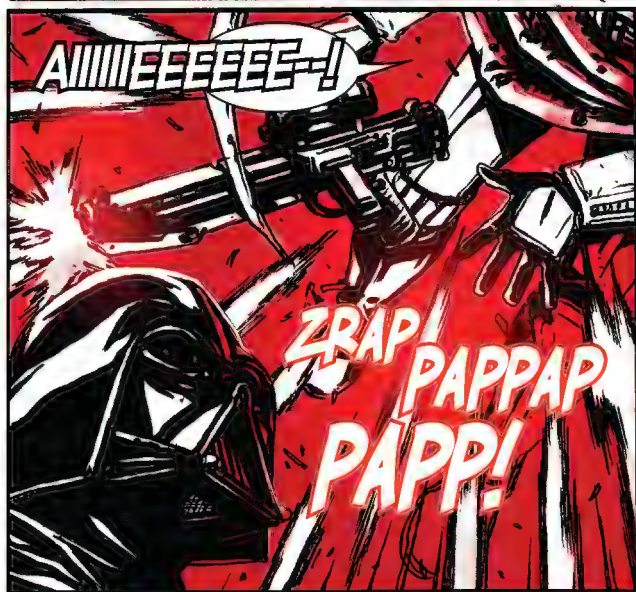


HRNN-- BELAY THAT ORDER, TROOPERS...

IT
APPEARS
DOCTOR LEMARE'S
RESEARCH HAS
ALREADY FOUND
US.

HSSSSSSSSSS!





...NOTHING
CAN DEFEAT
THE DARK
SIDE OF THE
FORCE.

VMMVMMVMMVMM

THOOOON

RAAIIIEEEEE--!

NNF--!

THRAKK!

HAFF--
DO YOU HEAR
ME?!

IF I AM
DESTINED
TO DIE THIS
DAY...

"...THEN I SHALL
TAKE YOU ALL
DOWN WITH ME."



RNNN...
WHERE AM
I?



TH-HEY
BROUGHT US
TO THEIR L-LAIR,
LORD VADER...

I TH-TH-THINK
THEY'RE GOING
TO EAT US.



I DONT
F-FEEL RIGHT--THEY
D-DID SOMETHING
TO M-ME...

S-SIR--
I WOULD GLADLY
D-D-DIE FOR THE
EMPIRE...

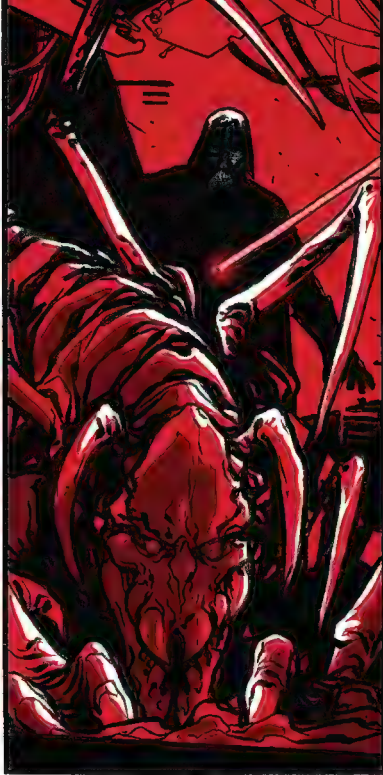


...BUT
PL-PLEASE...
N-NOT LIKE
THIS.

AS YOU WISH,
SERGEANT...



...KNOW THAT
YOU SHALL BE
AVENGED.





THE OTHERS WERE MERELY PRACTICE...

...NOW IT IS TIME TO DISPATCH THEIR QUEEN.

HSSSSSS--
I CAN SMELL YOUR HATRED,
LITTLE SITH LORD...

...JUST AS EASILY AS I CAN
TASTE YOUR SUFFERING.

I KNOW YOUR MIND,
DARTH VADER--
YOU DO NOT WISH
TO BETRAY YOUR
QUEEN...

...NOT
WHEN I HAVE
BEQUEATHED
YOU THE MOST
EXQUISITE
GIFT OF
ALL.

NYARRRGH--!



NNFF--
WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE
TO ME?

WHAT IS IT
THAT TROUBLES YOU,
LORD VADER? SURELY
YOU MUST RECOGNIZE
ME...

DOCTOR
SERA LEMARE,
AT YOUR
SERVICE.

"FOR YEARS, I WAS FORCED
TO USE SCAVENGED FARMING
EQUIPMENT TO PERFECT MY
Z'RAKKON HYBRIDIZATION..."

"YET NOTHING COULD
PREPARE ME FOR THE
SHEER RAPTURE OF
FINALLY TESTING MY
PROCEDURE ON LIVING
SUBJECTS."

"AFTER WATCHING MY
CREW TEAR THEMSELVES
APART, I TOOK IT UPON
MYSELF TO EMBARK UPON
ANOTHER ROLE..."

"...TRANSFORMING
MYSELF INTO THE
QUEEN OF OUR
NEWFOUND HIVE MIND."

DO YOU UNDERSTAND
WHAT HAS HAPPENED
TO YOU NOW?

IN THIS COLD AND
UNFEELING UNIVERSE,
THIS IS THE ULTIMATE
MERCY...

NOW YOU
WILL JOIN THE
HIVE IN MIND,
BODY AND
SOUL...

...AND YOU
SHALL NEVER
BE ALONE
AGAIN.

GRAHH--!

STRAKT!



IF THE
EMPEROR'S PET
CAN FALL TO THE
Z'RAKKON, NONE SHALL
STAND AGAINST--
EH?

BOOSH!



WHAT ARE
YOU--?

FOOLISH
SITH--NO ONE
CAN ESCAPE THE
HIVE MIND!



HAFF--
SO YOU CLAIM,
CREATURE.

BUT I
SHALL TEACH
YOU THE ERROR
OF YOUR
WAYS.



BECAUSE ALL THINGS
ARE POSSIBLE WHEN
YOU BELIEVE IN THE
DARK SIDE.

SHRIPPP!

"IF THE *ENDLESS MERCY*
IS TRULY THE VESSEL OF
YOUR DELIVERANCE...

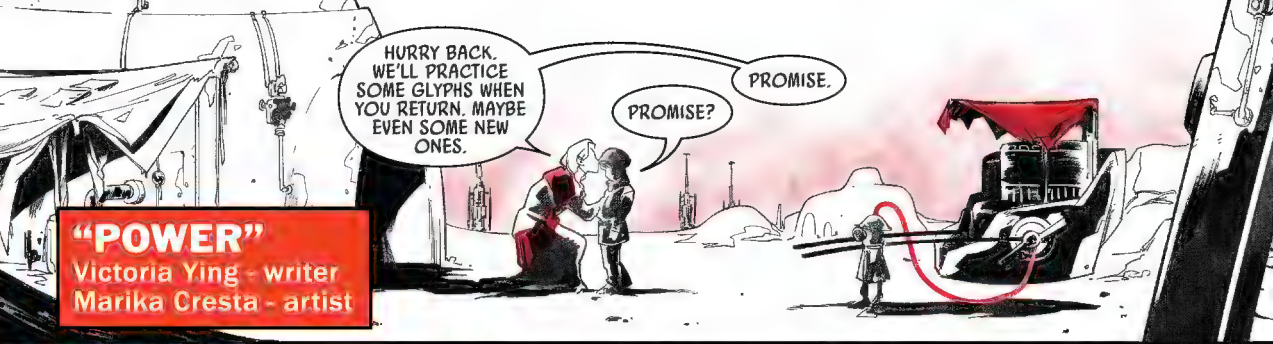
"...THEN LET IT
SERVE NOW AS
YOUR TOMB."

TRAINING

THE ONLY
PEACE IN
THIS GALAXY IS
DEATH ITSELF,
DOCTOR.

WHEREVER
THERE IS
LIFE, THERE IS
SUFFERING--AND
THE DARK SIDE
SHALL ALWAYS
ENDURE.

The end.



HURRY BACK.
WE'LL PRACTICE
SOME GLYPHS WHEN
YOU RETURN. MAYBE
EVEN SOME NEW
ONES.

PROMISE?

PROMISE.

"POWER"

Victoria Ying - writer
Marika Cresta - artist

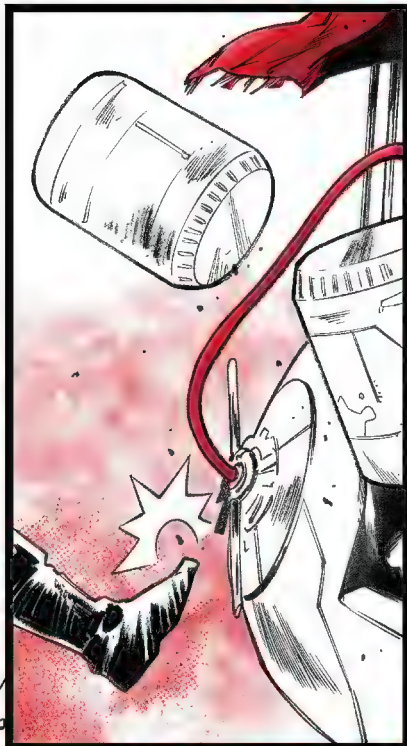
Later...



HOW'S
YOUR
MA?

SHE'S FINE,
SIR. JUST EAGER
TO GET OUR
FUNDS FOR THE
SEASON.







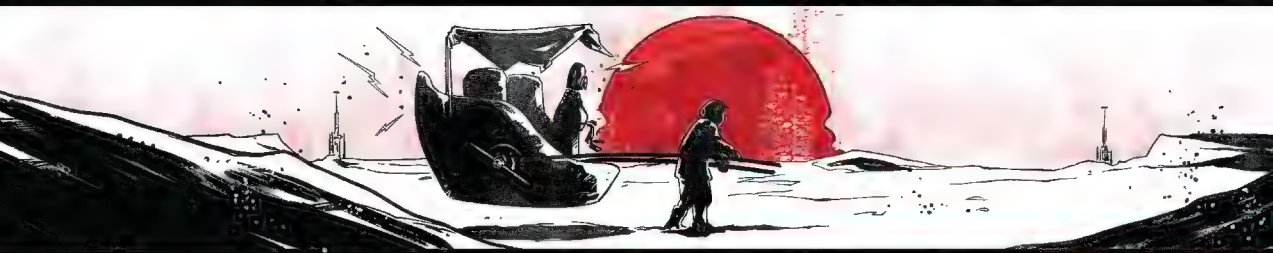




THOSE DOLTS.
THEY REALLY
THOUGHT THAT
WOULD BREAK
THE RICKSHAW?

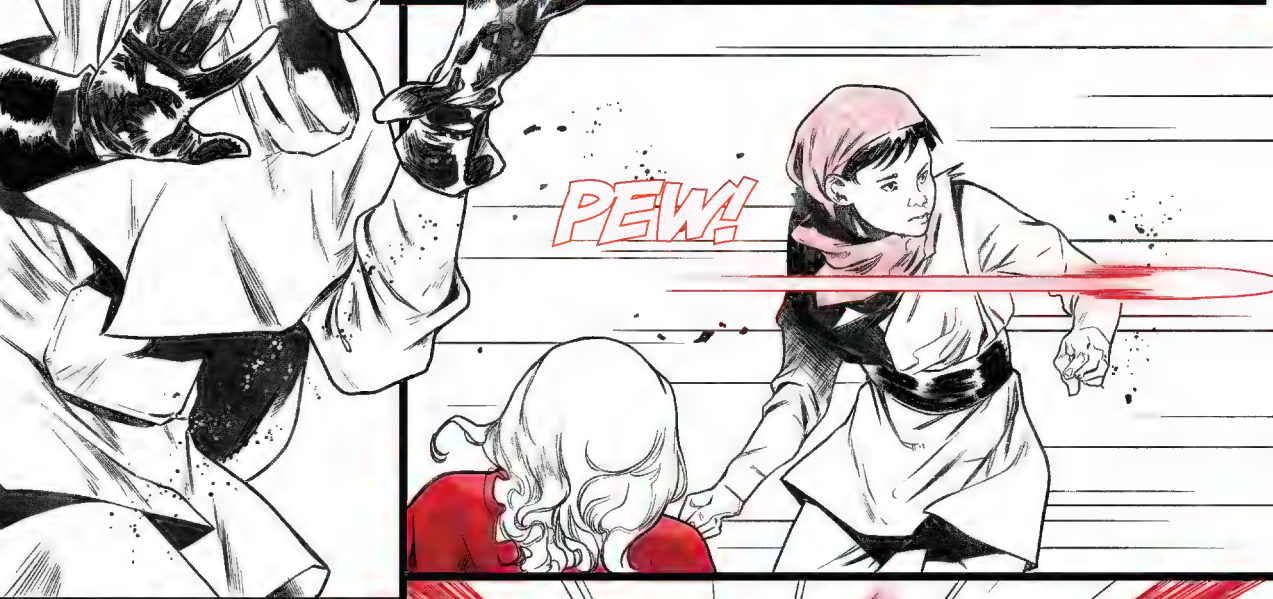


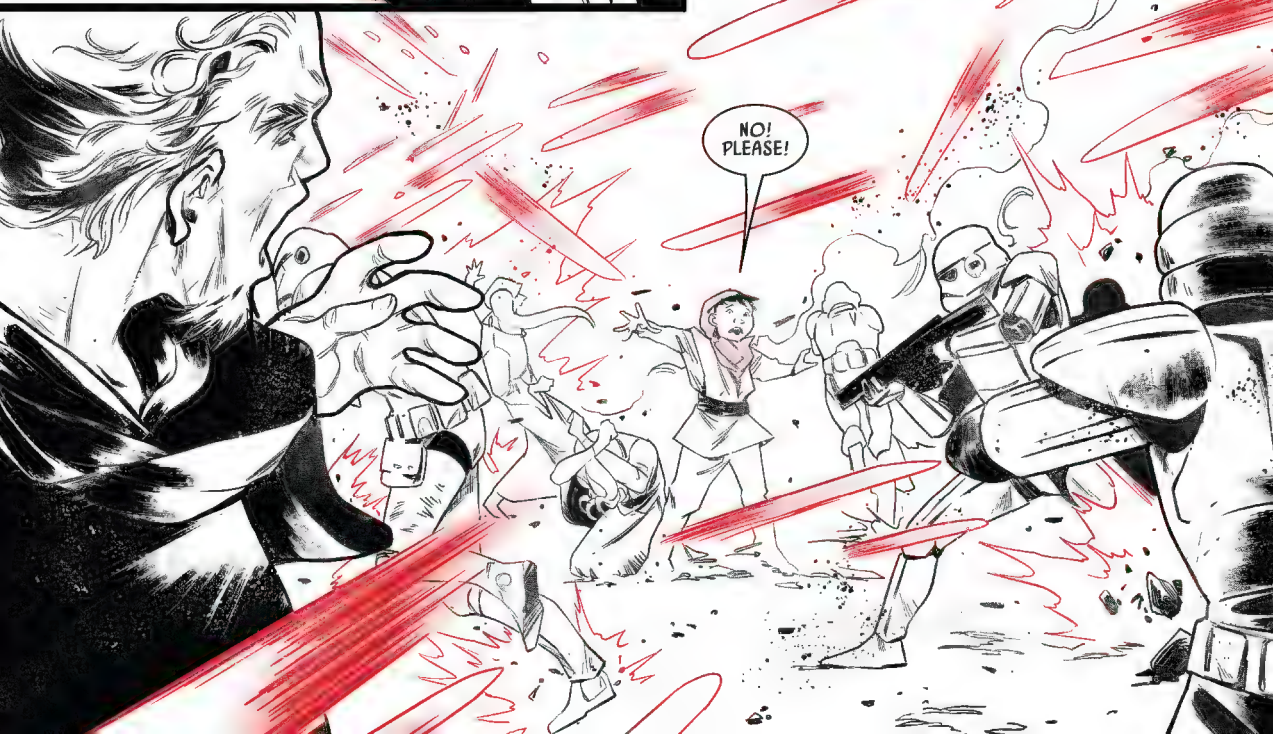
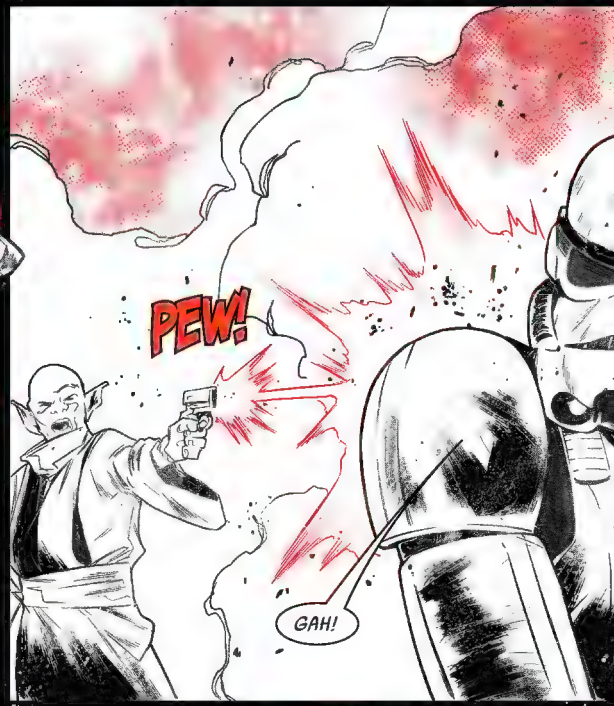
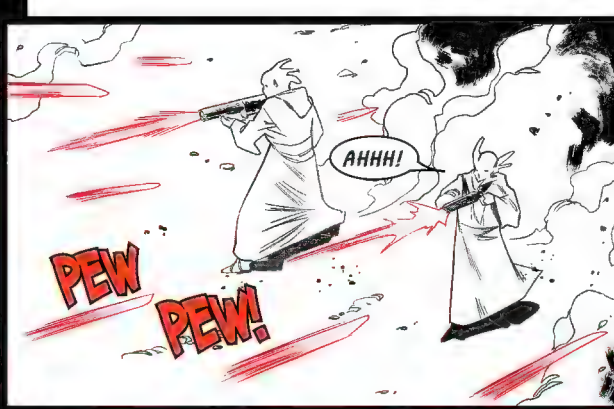
WE'LL ONLY BE
A FEW MINUTES
LATE GETTING
HOME.

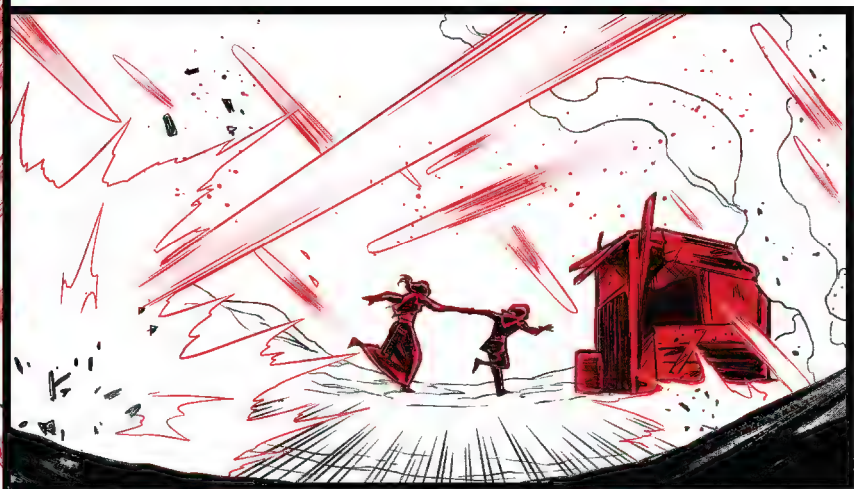


AHH!

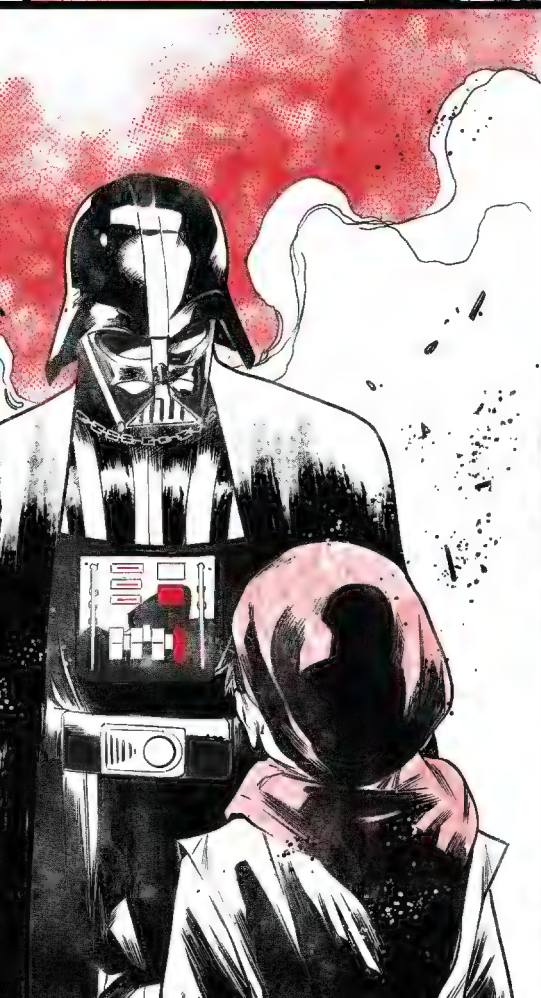














NOEGAUD
WAS RIGHT...
THE ONLY THING
THAT MATTERS...
IS POWER.

The end.



星
XII-MANXXX

#1 Variant by
JIM CHEUNG



"HARD SHUTDOWN part 3"

Jason Aaron - writer • Leonard Kirk - artist
Romulo Fajardo Jr. - colorist



"WE'RE STUCK OUT HERE WHILE HE'S LYING IN OUR BODY SHOP, KILLING OUR ENTIRE CREW WITH HIS...HIS MAGIC MIND POWERS."

SOME BIG MASTER PLAN YOU HAD, CYN.

THOSE SYSTEMS OF HIS ARE WORTH MORE MONEY THAN ANY SCORE WE'VE EVER PULLED.

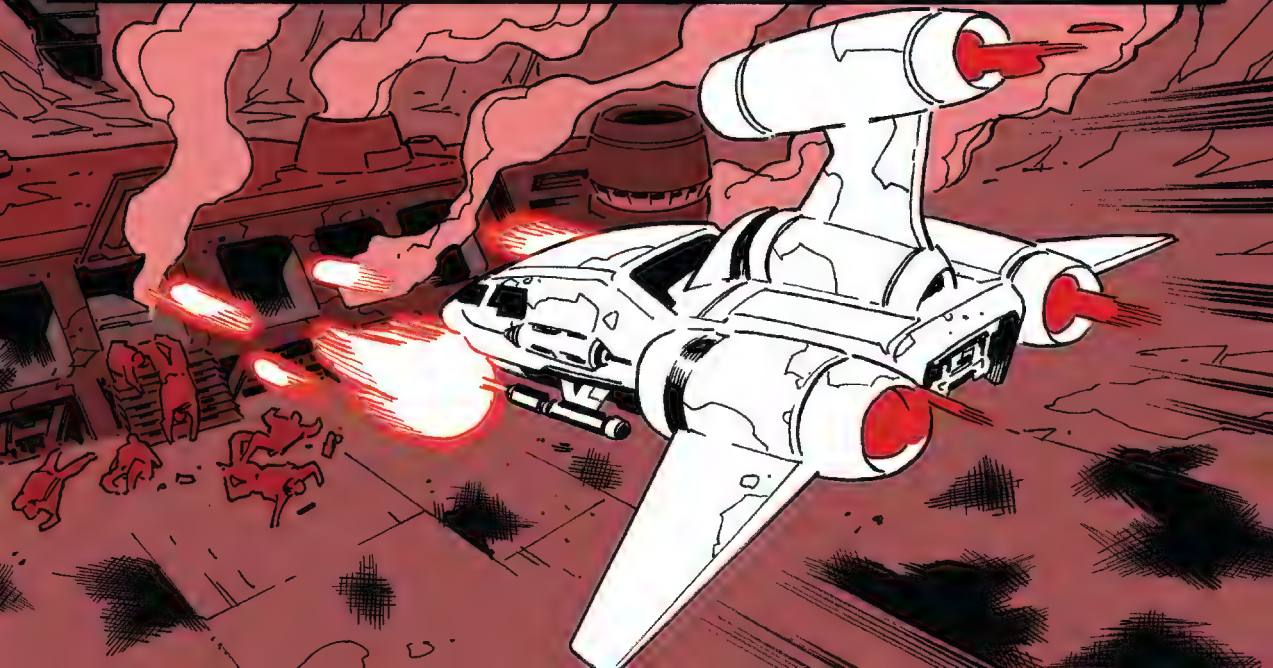
GREAT! SO GO GET THEM!

FUMP

YOU'RE RIGHT, WE CAN'T.

WE'LL HAVE TO SALVAGE WHAT WE CAN FROM HIS CORPSE.

GET THE SHIP IN THE AIR.





DIRECT HIT!
NICE SHOOTING,
DAWS!

NOW
CIRCLE AROUND
AND FINISH HIM
OFF!



DAWS?!

TURNING, BUT...
CONTROLS AREN'T
RESPONDING...

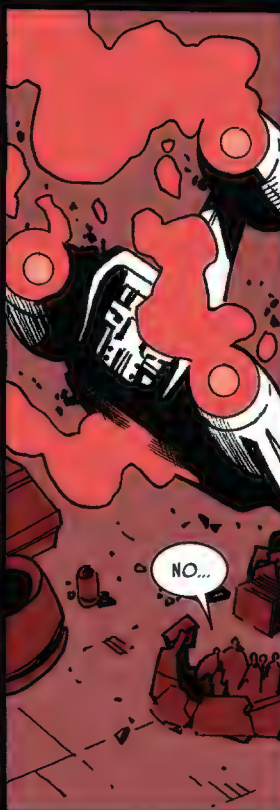
IT'S LIKE...
RRGH...
SOMEONE ELSE
IS STEERING.

IT'S VADER!
HE'S CONTROLLING
THE SHIP!

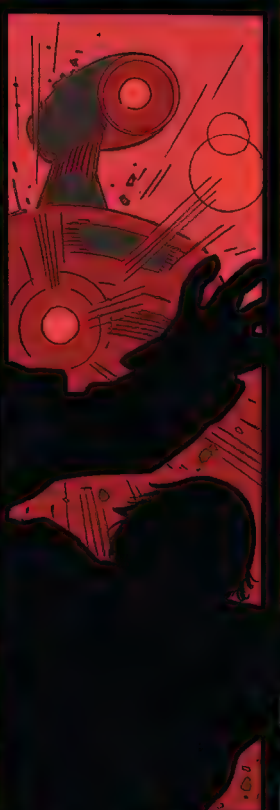
THAT'S NOT
POSSIBLE!

FIRE ALL
WEAPONS! FIRE
EVERYTHING AT THE
BUILDING!
NOW!

I CAN'T
CONTROL IT!
I'M GONNA--



NO...

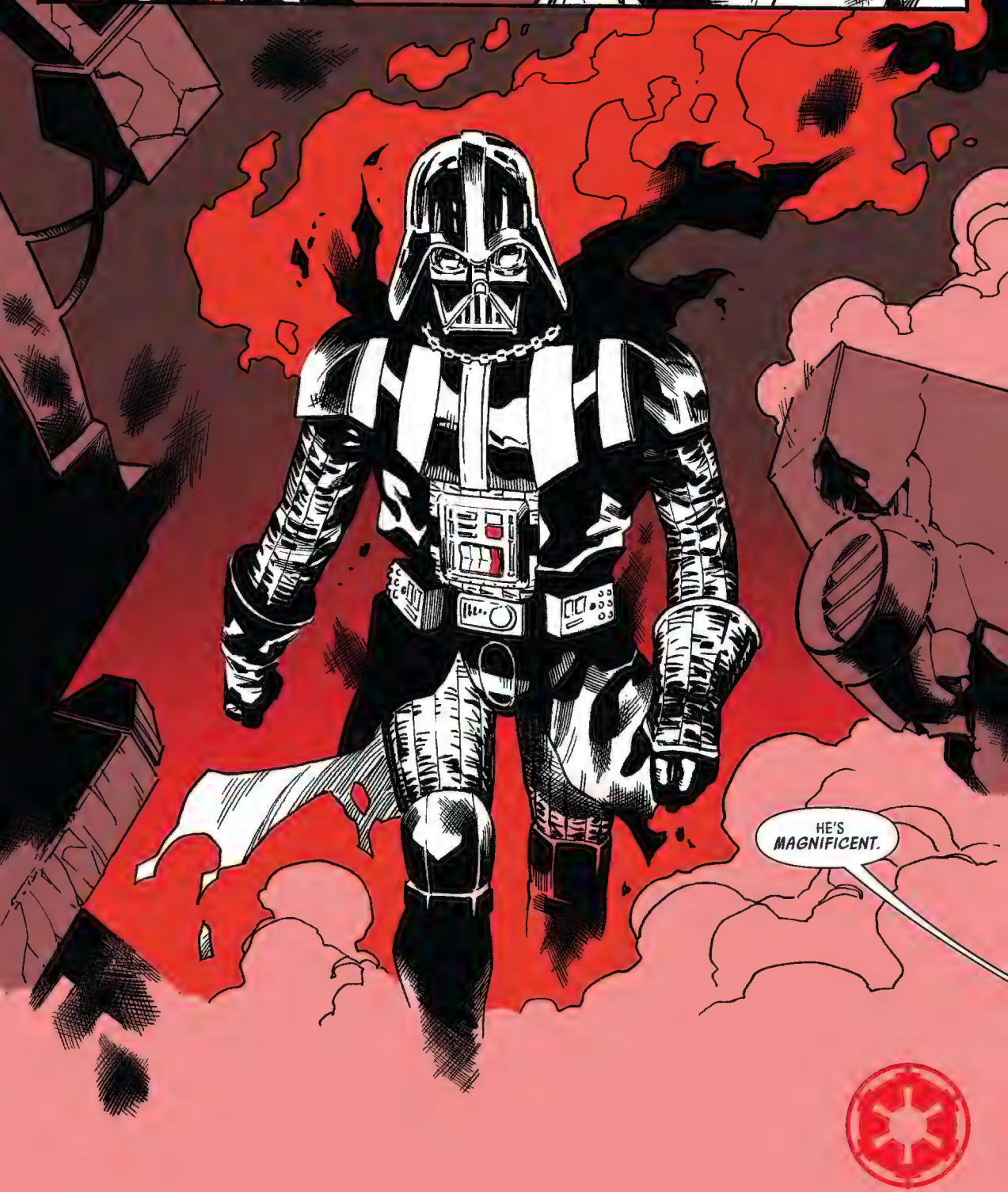






CYN!
WHAT DO
WE DO?!

FATHER...
...YOU WERE
RIGHT.



HE'S
MAGNIFICENT.



COMMANDER!

WE HAVE FOLLOWED THE
REBEL SHIP. IT IS ENTERING
THE PLANET'S ATMOSPHERE
NOW. HE WAS CORRECT. IT
LED US RIGHT TO THEIR
OUTPOST.

VERY GOOD! ANOTHER
REBEL STRONGHOLD WILL
BE PUT TO DUST. AS IT
SHOULD BE.

SHALL I DISPATCH
OUR GROUND UNITS?

NO.

HE WAS VERY
SPECIFIC IN HIS
INSTRUCTIONS.

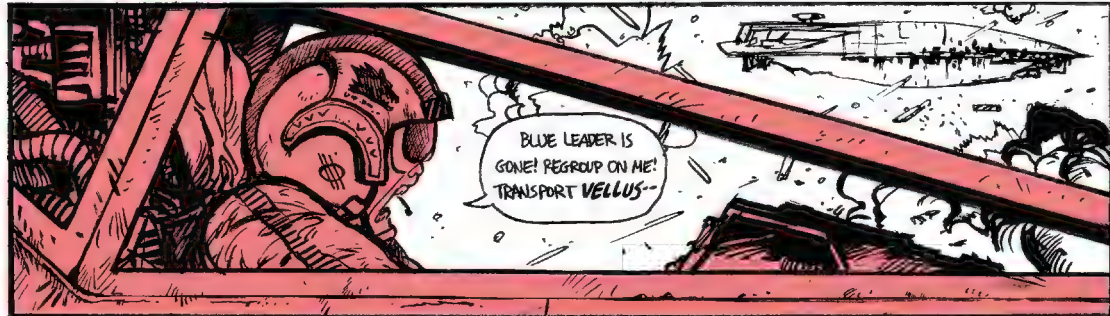


"HE WANTS TO DO THIS ON HIS OWN."

BLUE SQUADRON!
WITHOUT US, THIS TRANSPORT
WOULDN'T MAKE IT, AND
NEITHER WILL OUR TROOPS
ON THE GROUND!
WE ARE IT--



GHAKKK



BLUE LEADER IS
GONE! REGROUP ON ME!
TRANSPORT VELLUS--

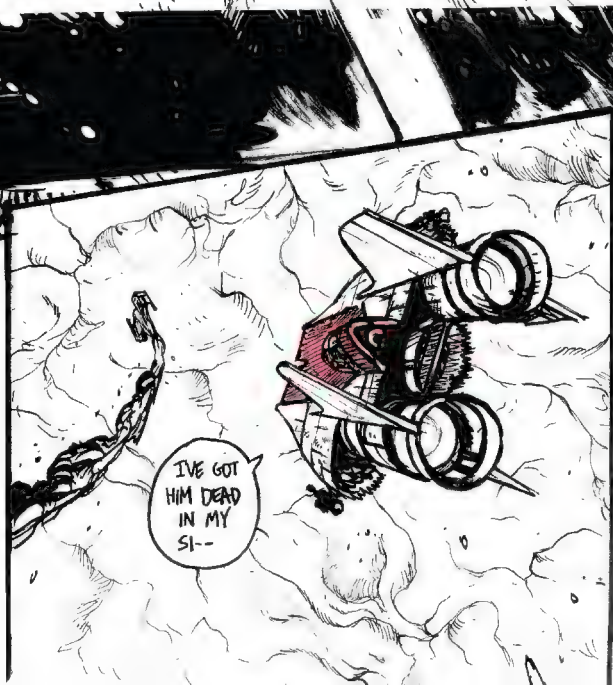


HE'S HIT! LOOKS
LIKE HIS WEAPONS
ARE OUT! BLUE
TWO, GO!

ROGER
THAT, BLUE
SIX!



THIS IS
BLUE TWO,
MOVING IN
FOR THE
KILL!



I'VE GOT
HIM DEAD
IN MY SI--

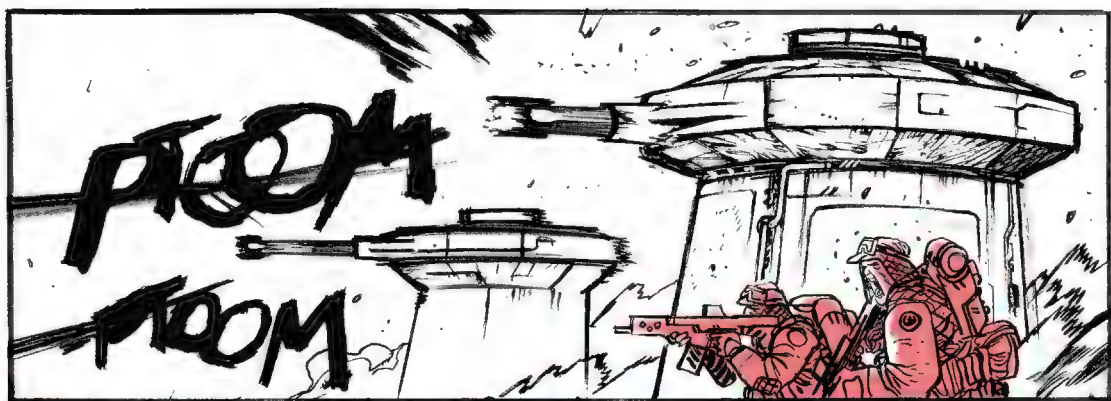


GUK

BLUE
TWO! WHAT'S
WRONG??

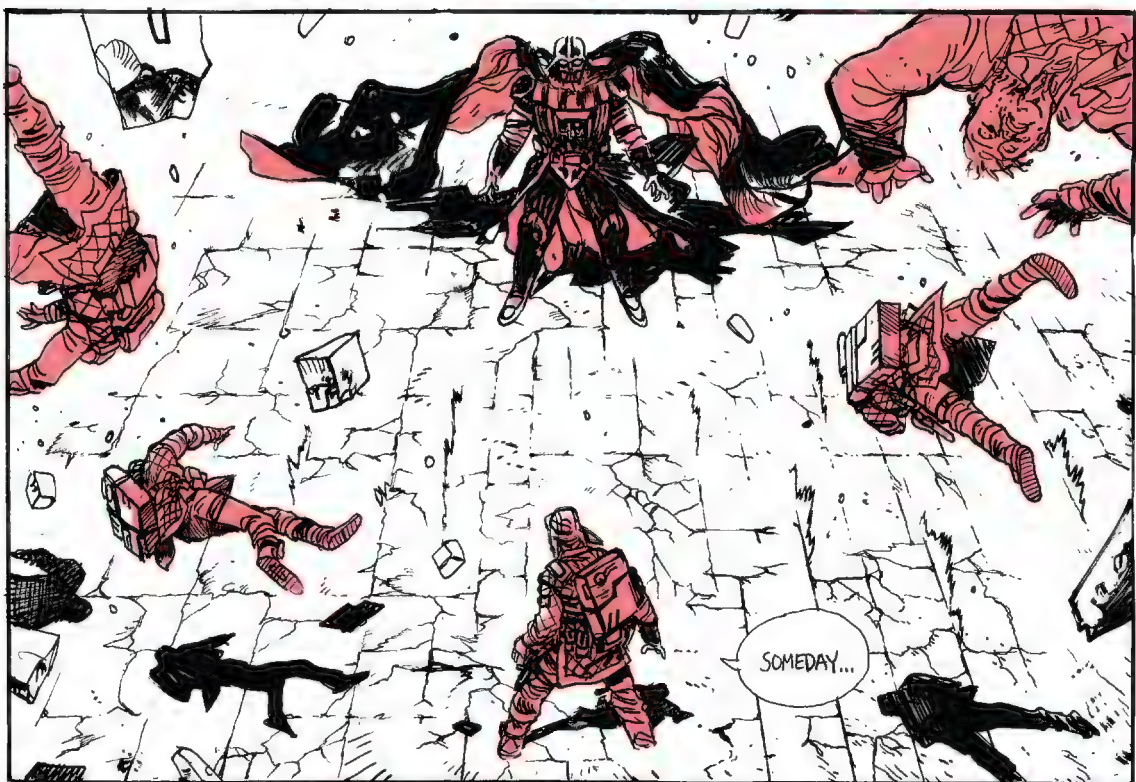












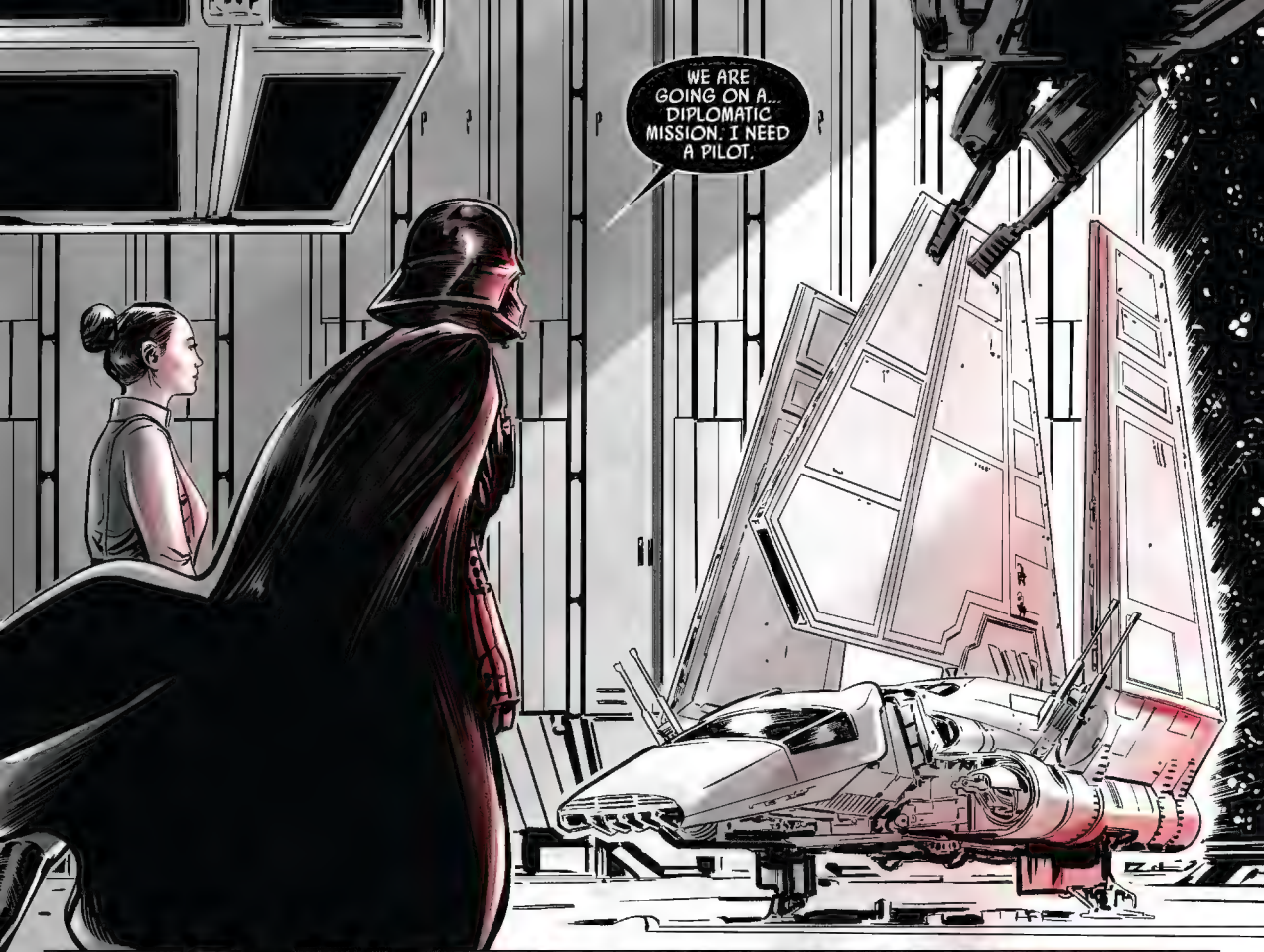


"DIPLOMATIC IMPUNITY"

Marc Bernardin - writer • Stefano Raffaele - artist
Andres Mossa - colorist

The *Executor*. Darth
Vader's flagship.

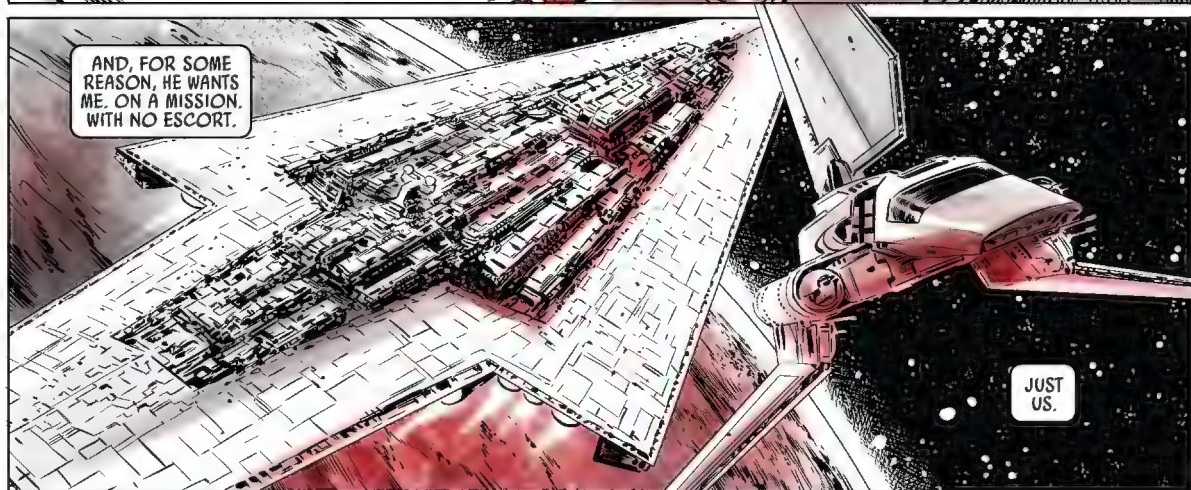




WE ARE GOING ON A... DIPLOMATIC MISSION. I NEED A PILOT.

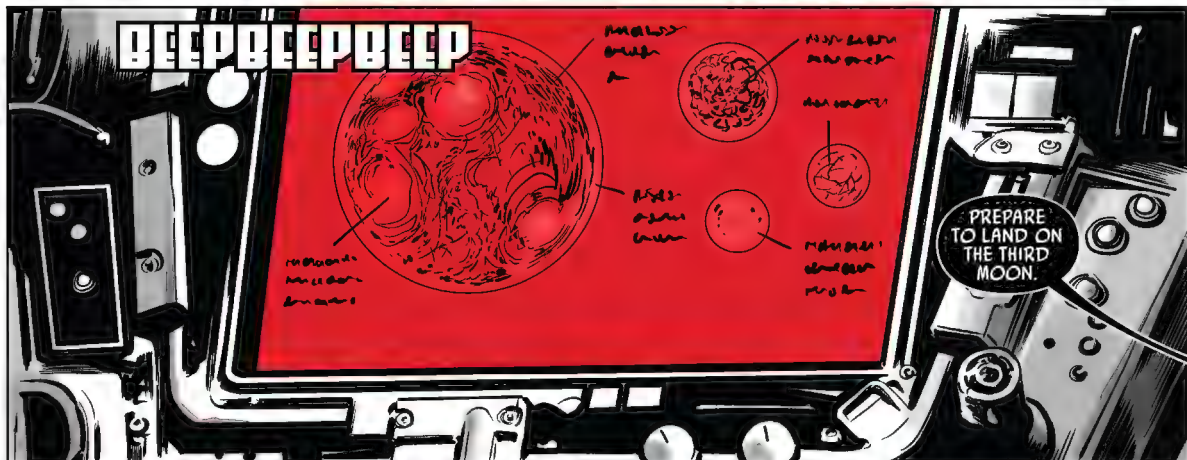
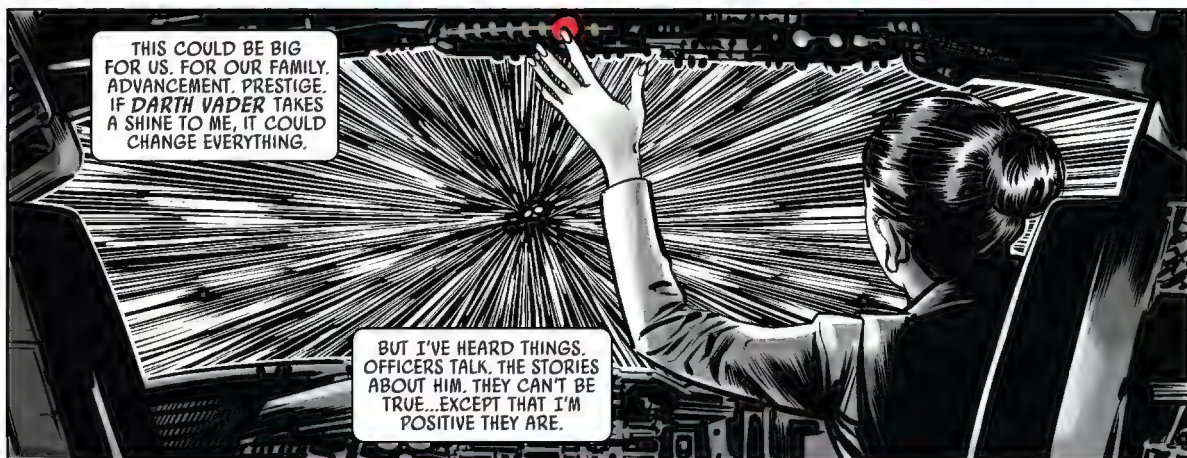


I KNEW HE NEEDED MORE THAN JUST A PILOT. RUMOR HAS IT, AFTER THE BATTLE OF YAVIN, HE FLEW A FAILING TIE FIGHTER HALFWAY ACROSS THE GALAXY. NO DROID PILOTING. JUST...HIM.



AND, FOR SOME REASON, HE WANTS ME. ON A MISSION. WITH NO ESCORT.

JUST US.





WHAT CAN
I EXPECT IN THERE,
LIEUTENANT?



SARJENN 3
ONLY HAS ONE PORT.
AND THE ONLY THING TO
TRADE IS ORE. THERE'S
A CONSTABLE. FOUR
OR FIVE DEPUTIES.

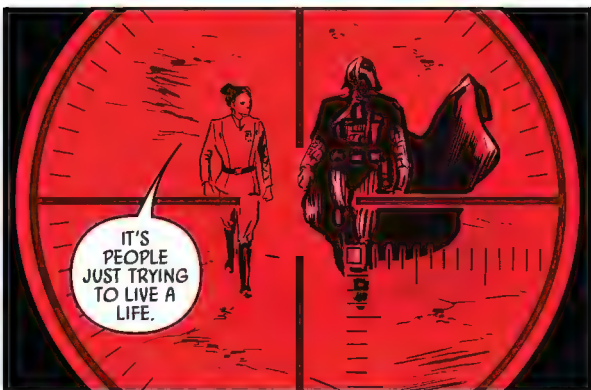
AN A280C
BLASTER RIFLE.
ALLIANCE
ARMAMENT.



MY LORD...
WHY ARE WE
HERE?

AS I SAID,
THIS IS A
DIPLOMATIC
MISSION.

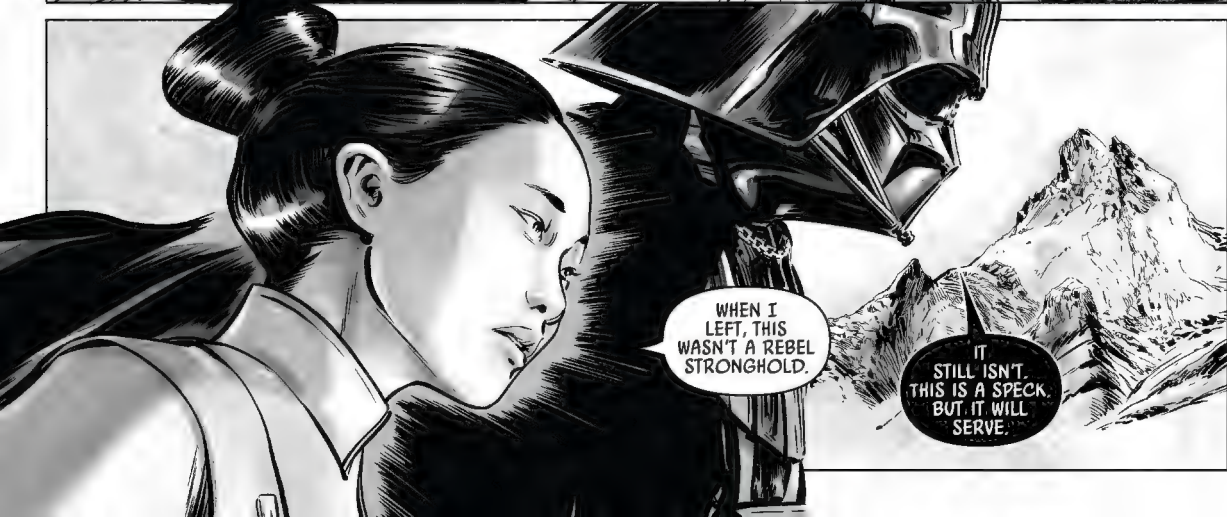
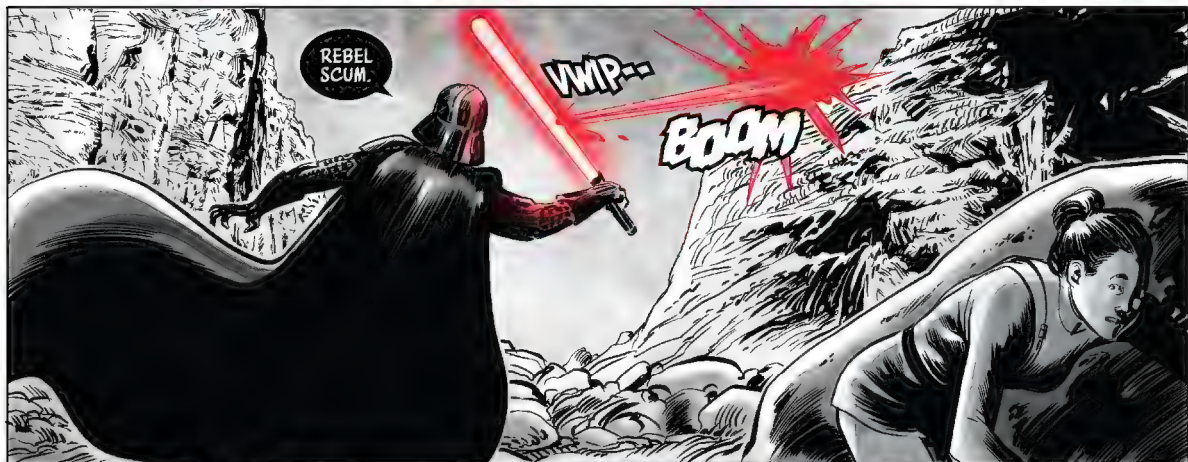
BUT...
SARJENN 3
HAS NO
DIPLOMATS.



IT'S
PEOPLE
JUST TRYING
TO LIVE A
LIFE.



I'M TELLING YOU!
IT'S VADER. HE'S
HERE!





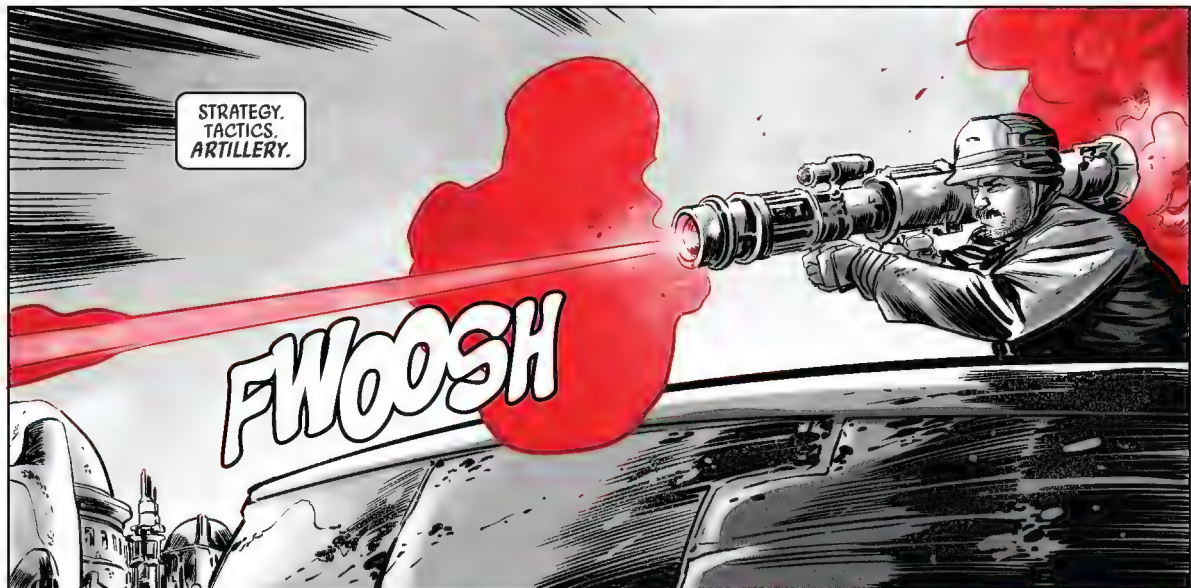
HE DIDN'T
HAVE TO.



I AM SURE THERE WAS
A PLAN FOR WHEN THE
EMPIRE DISCOVERED
THIS LOCATION.

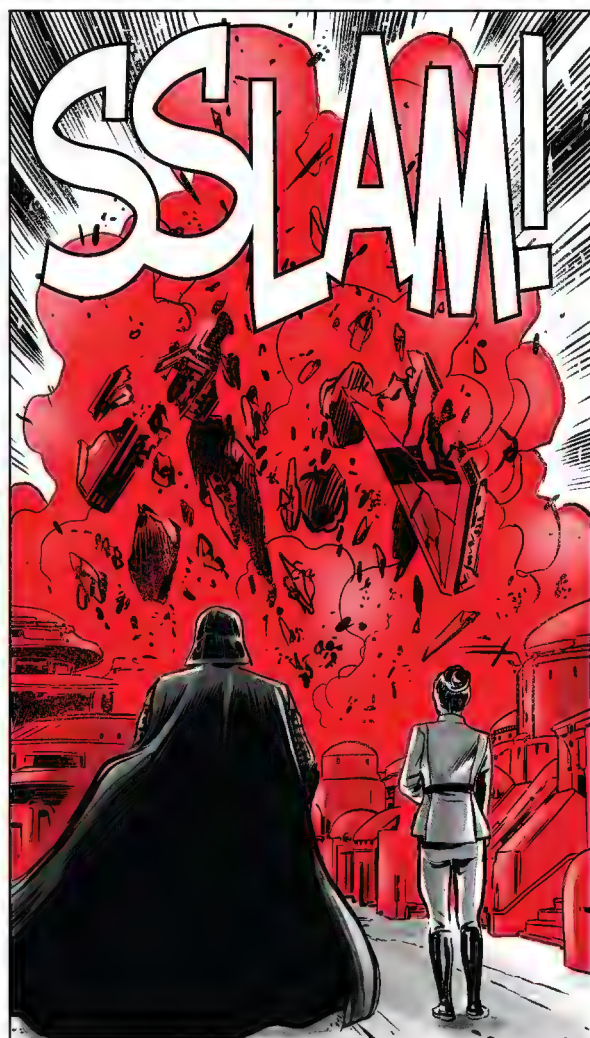
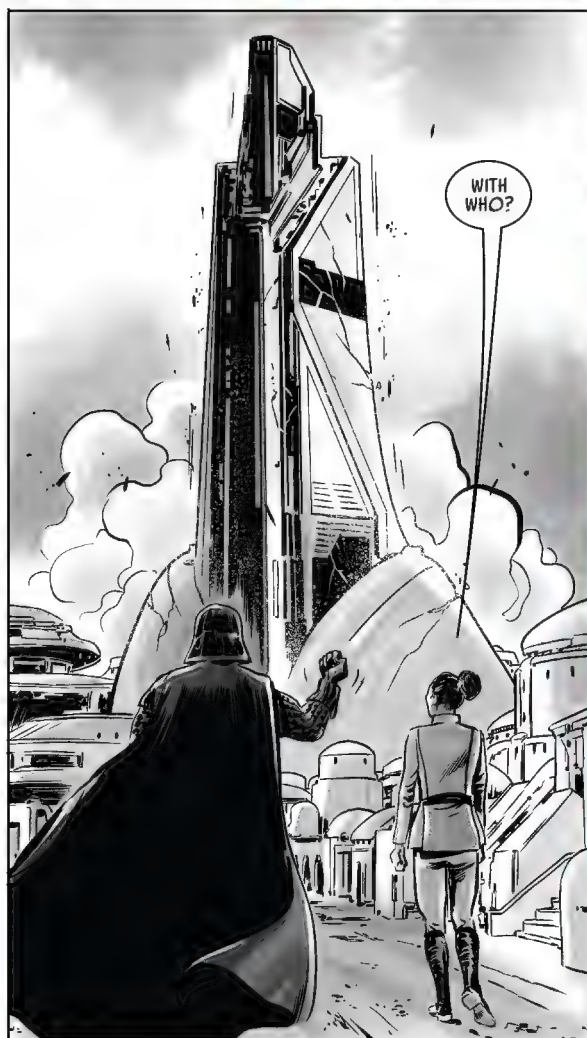


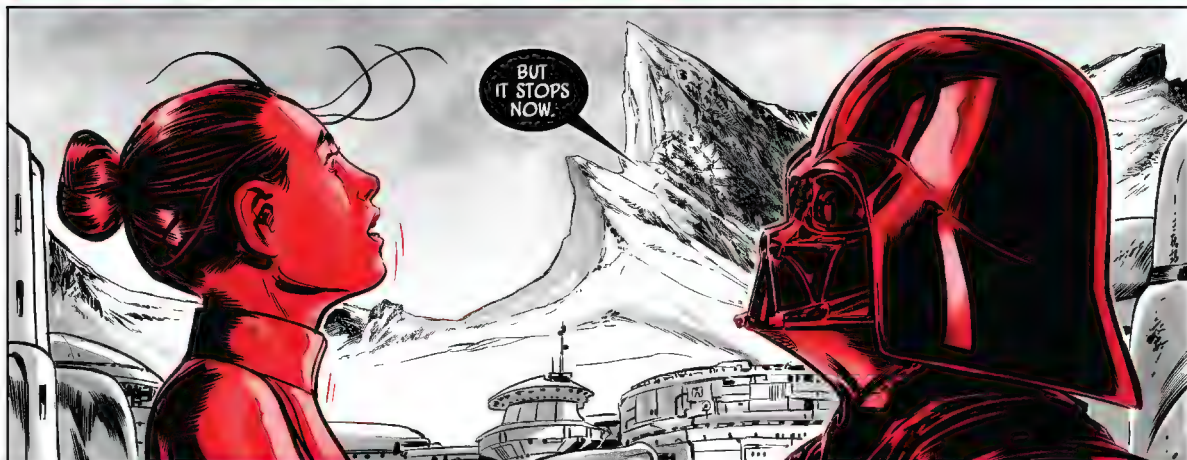
STRATEGY.
TACTICS.
ARTILLERY.



THERE IS
NO PLAN
FOR VADER.









I HAD NO
CHOICE. I HOPE
YOU'LL UNDERSTAND.
I PROMISED HIM
EVERYTHING.

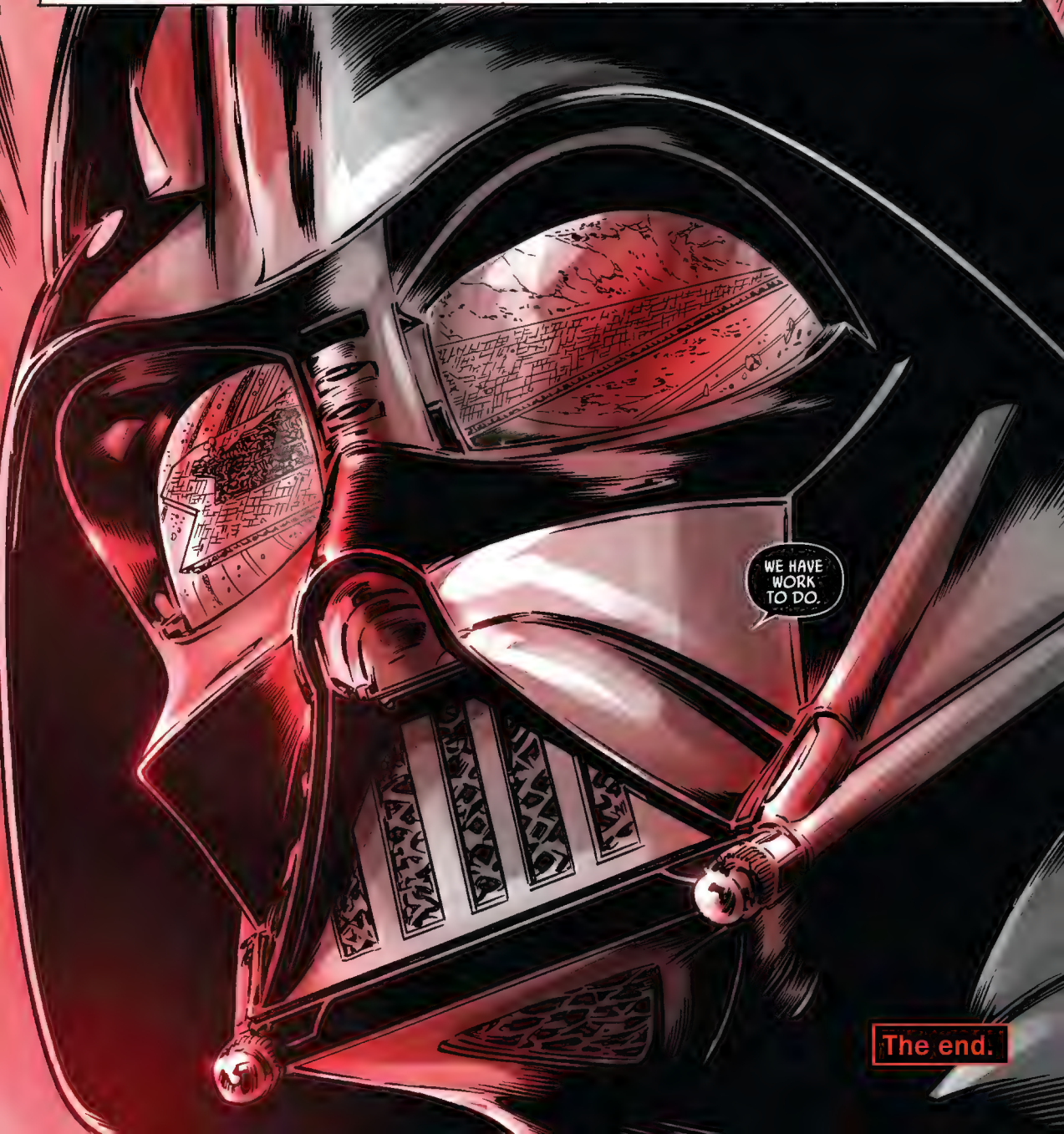
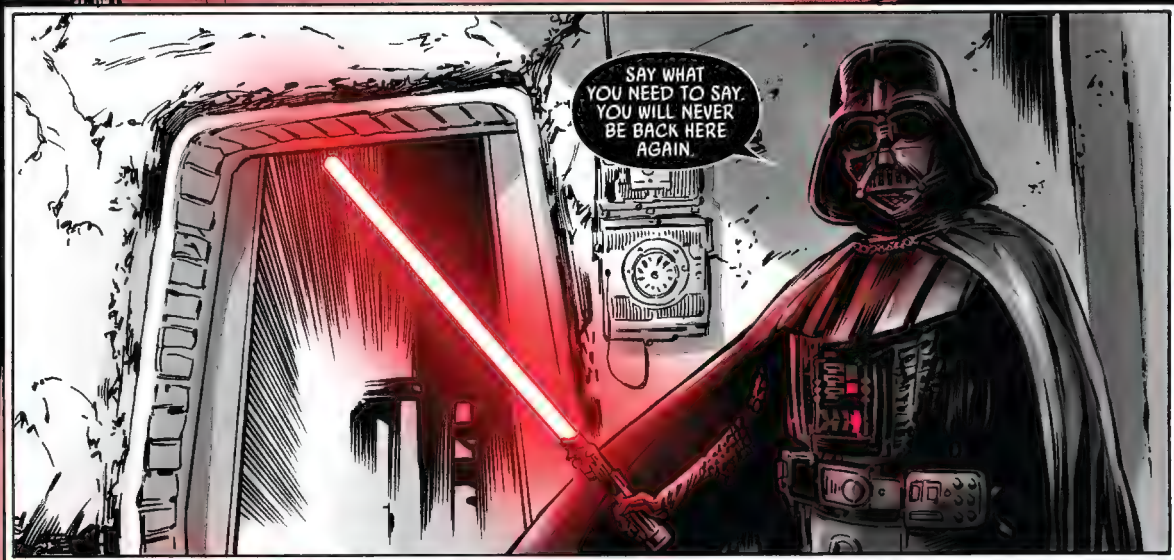
I'D GO FROM
BEING A SPY TO A
DOUBLE AGENT. I'D FEED
THE REBEL ALLIANCE
WHATEVER INFORMATION
HE WANTED ME TO.

IN EXCHANGE FOR
SAVING YOUR LIVES. EVEN
IF IT MEANT ENDANGERING
THE LIVES OF OTHER
REBEL SOLDIERS.

HE DOESN'T WANT THE ALLIANCE
WIPED OUT. "PRUNED" WAS THE
WORD HE USED. A REBELLION IS
GOOD FOR IMPERIAL MORALE.
A WARTIME EMPIRE NEEDS AN
ENEMY. ONE HE CAN CONTROL.

ALL IT COST
WAS MY SOUL.

I LOVE
YOU.



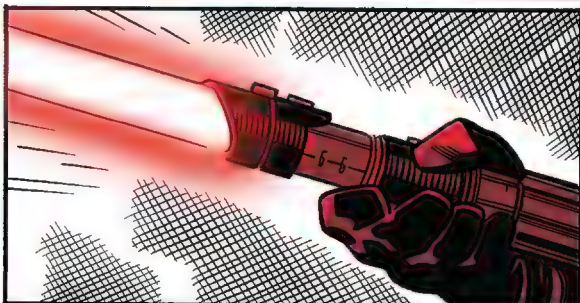
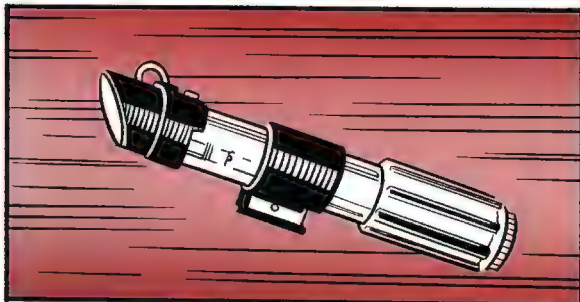
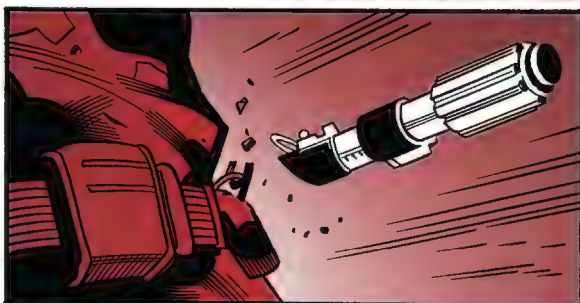
The end.



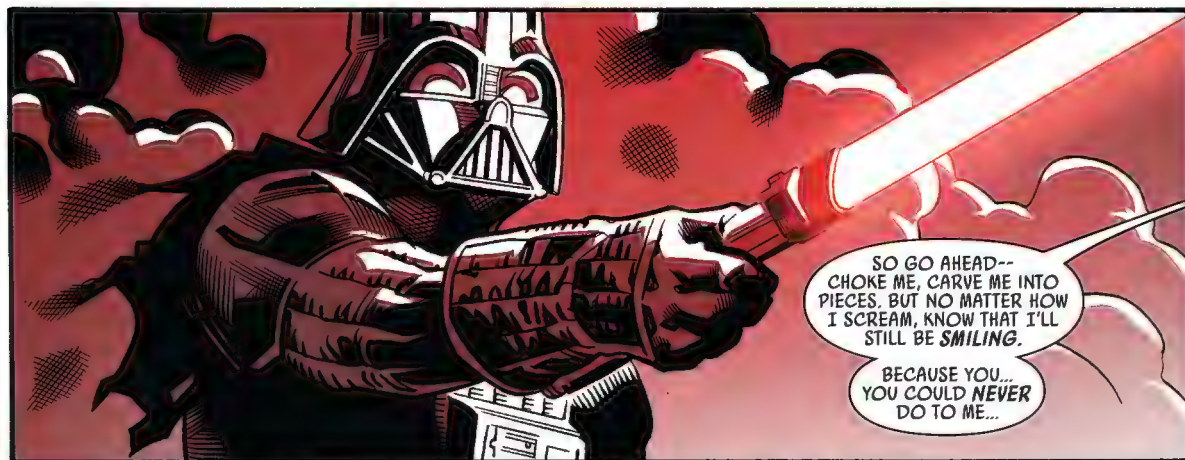
#1 Variant by
KAARE ANDREWS

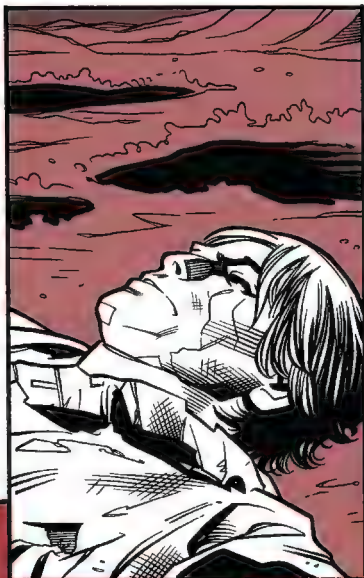












UUGHH...

WHAT? WHERE AM I...? WHY DIDN'T VADER...?

NO...NO, THOSE NESTS-- THOSE BELONG TO...

GGGGHK...



YOU WILL FIND YOUR MOTOR FUNCTIONS HAVE JUST BEEN **NEUTRALIZED**. YET YOUR **NEURAL RECEPTORS** REMAIN QUITE ACTIVE.

THAT MEANS THAT YOU CAN HEAR ME, AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY...

...YOU CAN **FEEL** WHAT'S ABOUT TO BE DONE TO YOU.



THE FAULT THAT YOU UNCOVERED WITHIN MY SYSTEMS WILL BE CORRECTED. MY ONE MINOR WEAKNESS FOREVER ELIMINATED.

YOU THINK YOUR OWN SYSTEMS SOMEHOW SECURE... **SUPERIOR.**



YOU FAIL TO REALIZE THAT YOU POSSESS THE **GREATEST WEAKNESS** OF ALL. JUST THE SAME AS EVERYONE ELSE.

HHRRRRRM!



I AM
VADER.



AND
YOU ARE
NOT.

HHRR
RE
EE
EHHH



Planet Uokara.

The Unknown
Regions.

STATUS REPORT,
LORD VADER?

"THE INHABITANT"

Steve Orlando - writer
Paul Davidson - artist

SURVEY
COMPLETE, DIRECTOR.
YOU MAY *COMMENCE*
WITH YOUR MINING
OPERATION.

I FIND NO
SENTIENT SPECIES.
NO CLAIM TO
STAMP OUT.

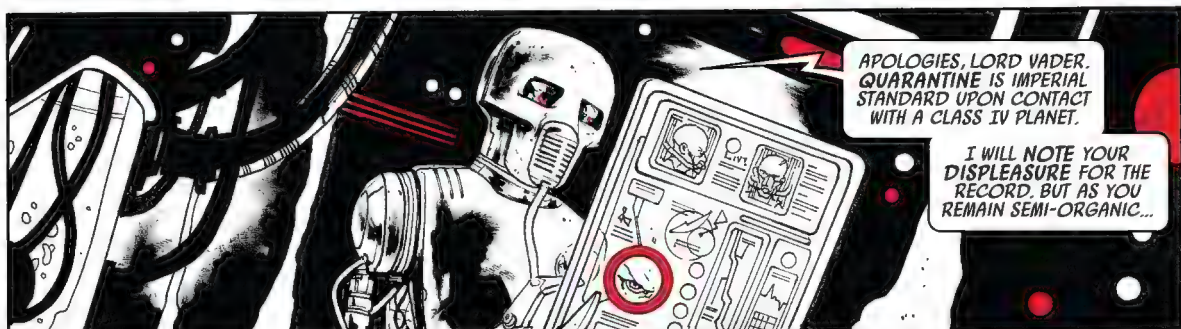
NO
OPPOSITION.

THIS WORLD,
THOUGH
FERTILE...



"...IS
UNINHABITED."

RELEASE ME,
DROID.



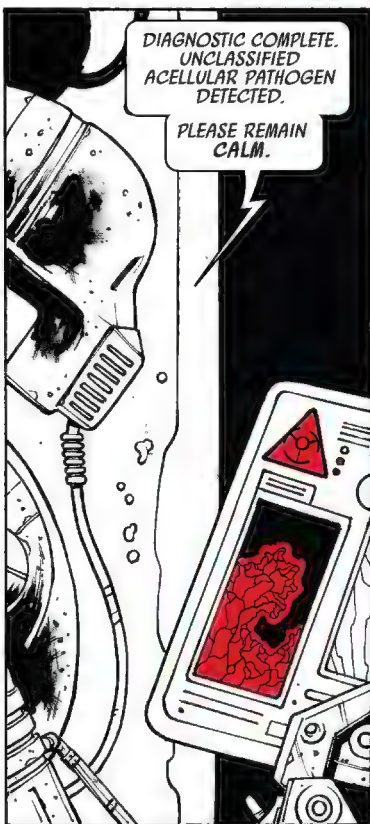
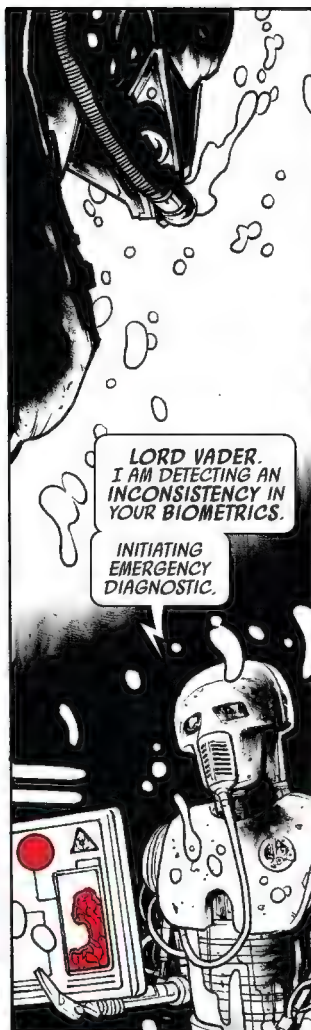
APOLOGIES, LORD VADER.
QUARANTINE IS IMPERIAL
STANDARD UPON CONTACT
WITH A CLASS IV PLANET.

I WILL NOTE YOUR
DISPLEASURE FOR THE
RECORD. BUT AS YOU
REMAIN SEMI-ORGANIC...



...YOU ARE
SUSCEPTIBLE
TO UNFORESEEN
PATHOGENS. YOUR
RESULTS ARE
COMPILING.

SOON, YOU
WILL BE
FREE TO--



"...FOR
HALLUCINATORY
EFFECTS."

WELCOME,
VADER. I TRUST
YOU RECOGNIZE THIS
RANK INFERNO? YOUR
MIND. YOUR FEARS.
UNFETTERED. UNLEASHED.
AND INFECTED...
BY ME.

YOU WANT
MY WORLD FOR
YOUR EMPIRE. BUT
IT WILL NOT COME
FREELY.

I AM
GHYMNON.
UOKARA'S SOLE
NATIVE, STRETCHING
FROM SEA
TO SEA.

YOU
BREATHED
ME IN. I AM
CLINGING TO YOUR
DESICCATED BRAIN
STEM.

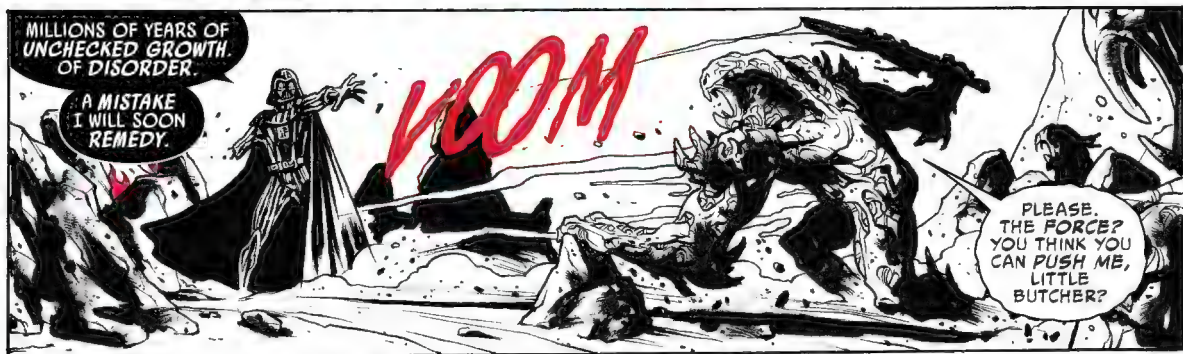


MY
SABER.

GONE.
OF COURSE IT IS.
OUT THERE, I AM
MICROSCOPIC.
HERE...

...MY FOCUS
DEFINES YOUR
REALITY. HERE,
I WILL CUT YOU
DOWN...





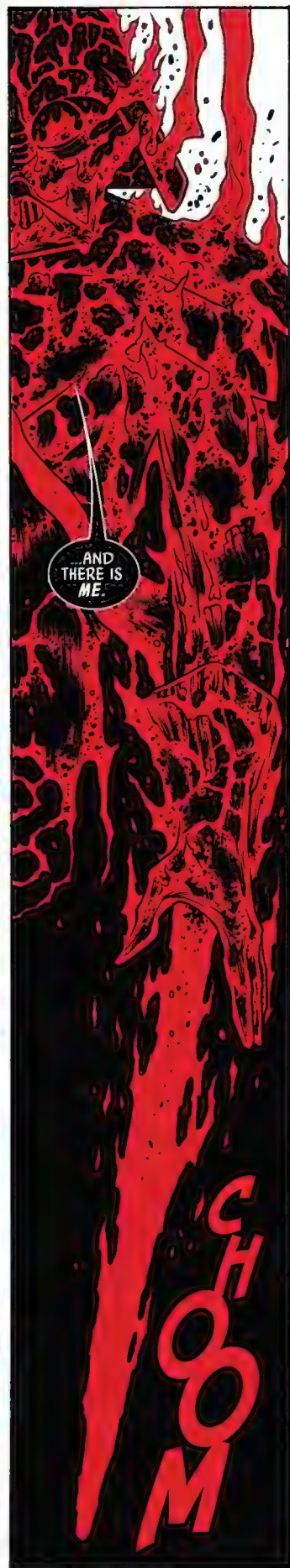






INDEED,
GHYMNON.

THERE IS
WILL...



...AND
THERE IS
ME...

CH
OOM



NO... I AM *INSIDE* YOUR HEAD!
POISON SANDS! A WORLD ABLAZE!
UTTER DESOLATION...

...COMPLETE
ISOLATION!
I BUILT THIS HELL
FROM YOUR OWN
FEARS!



YOU ARE
MISTAKEN.
FEAR DOES
NOT EXIST.

KHETTIT



ONLY
FUEL.



A PITY YOU DO
NOT KNOW THE
DIFFERENCE.

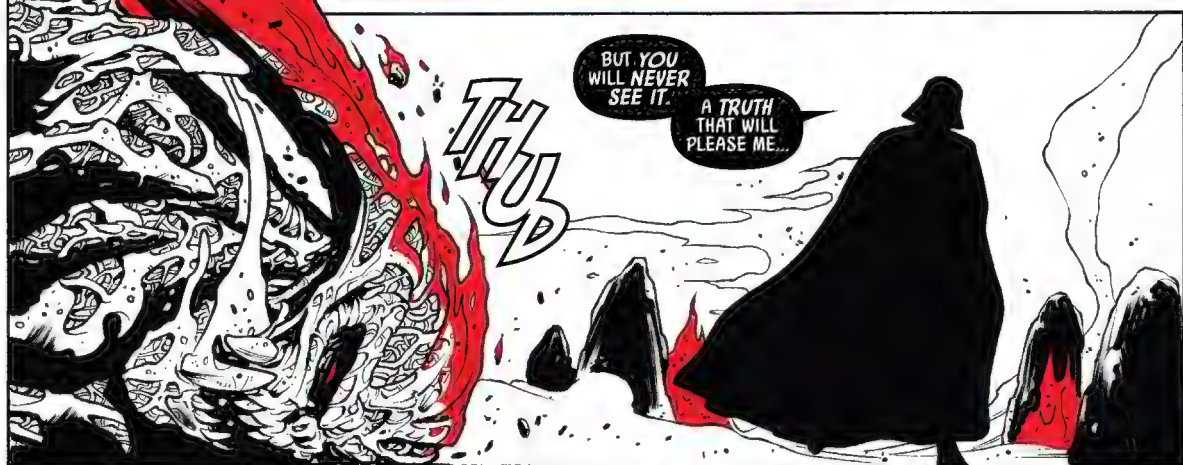
PITY, HEH...
I'VE LIVED EONS.
BURIED THOUSANDS OF
LORDS. THEY MEET
ONLY ONE END.

I MAY NOT
BE YOURS. BUT
KNOW THIS, VADER--
KILL ME, PILLAGE
UOKARA'S
RICHES...



...YOU MAY
WIN TODAY.
AND EVEN
TOMORROW.

BUT
YOUR TIME
WILL COME.









"RETURN TO HOTH"

Frank Tieri - writer
Danny Earls - artist

BEEP

LORD
VADER...

MY APOLOGIES FOR THE DISTURBANCE BUT
I THOUGHT YOU SHOULD BE INFORMED
IMMEDIATELY. A PROBE DROID--ONE LEFT
ON HOTH AFTER THE INVASION OF THE
REBEL BASE THERE--HAS BEEN
DESTROYED.



IT COULD BE
THE REBELS HAVE RETURNED.
IT COULD BE WEATHER RELATED...
ON THAT FORSAKEN PLANET, IT
COULD LITERALLY BE ANYTHING.
THAT BEING SAID, SHALL I SEND A
DETACHMENT TO INVESTIGATE
FURTHER?

THERE IS NO
NEED FOR THAT,
GENERAL. I'LL
HANDLE IT
MYSELF.



IS...THAT
PRUDENT, MY LORD?
TO UNNECESSARILY PUT
YOURSELF IN POSSIBLE
DANGER WHEN I CAN
JUST AS EASILY
SEND--



ARE MY
ABILITIES BEING
QUESTIONED,
GENERAL?

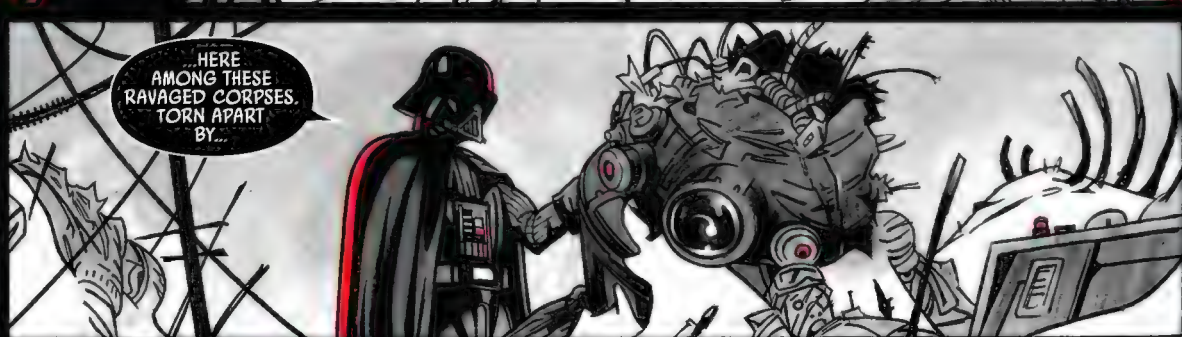
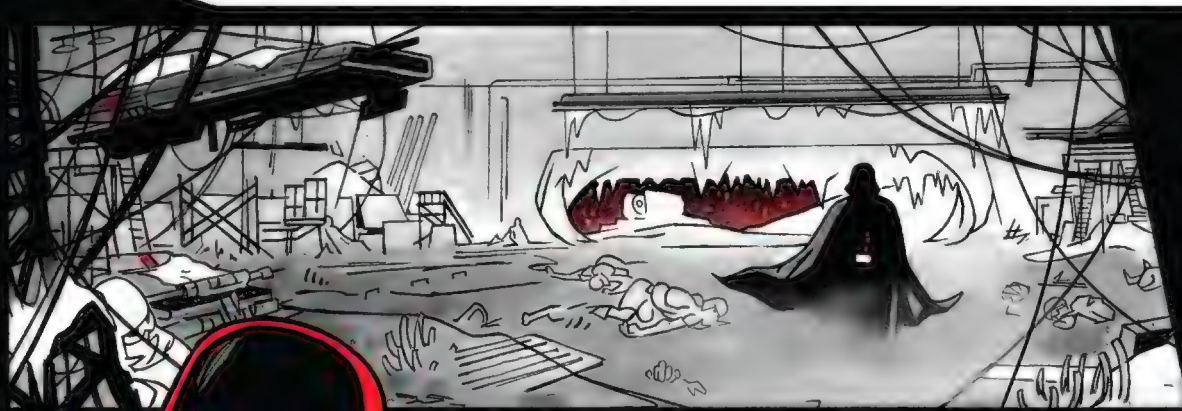


NO...
NO, OF COURSE
NOT, LORD VADER.
MY APOLOGIES
IF I--

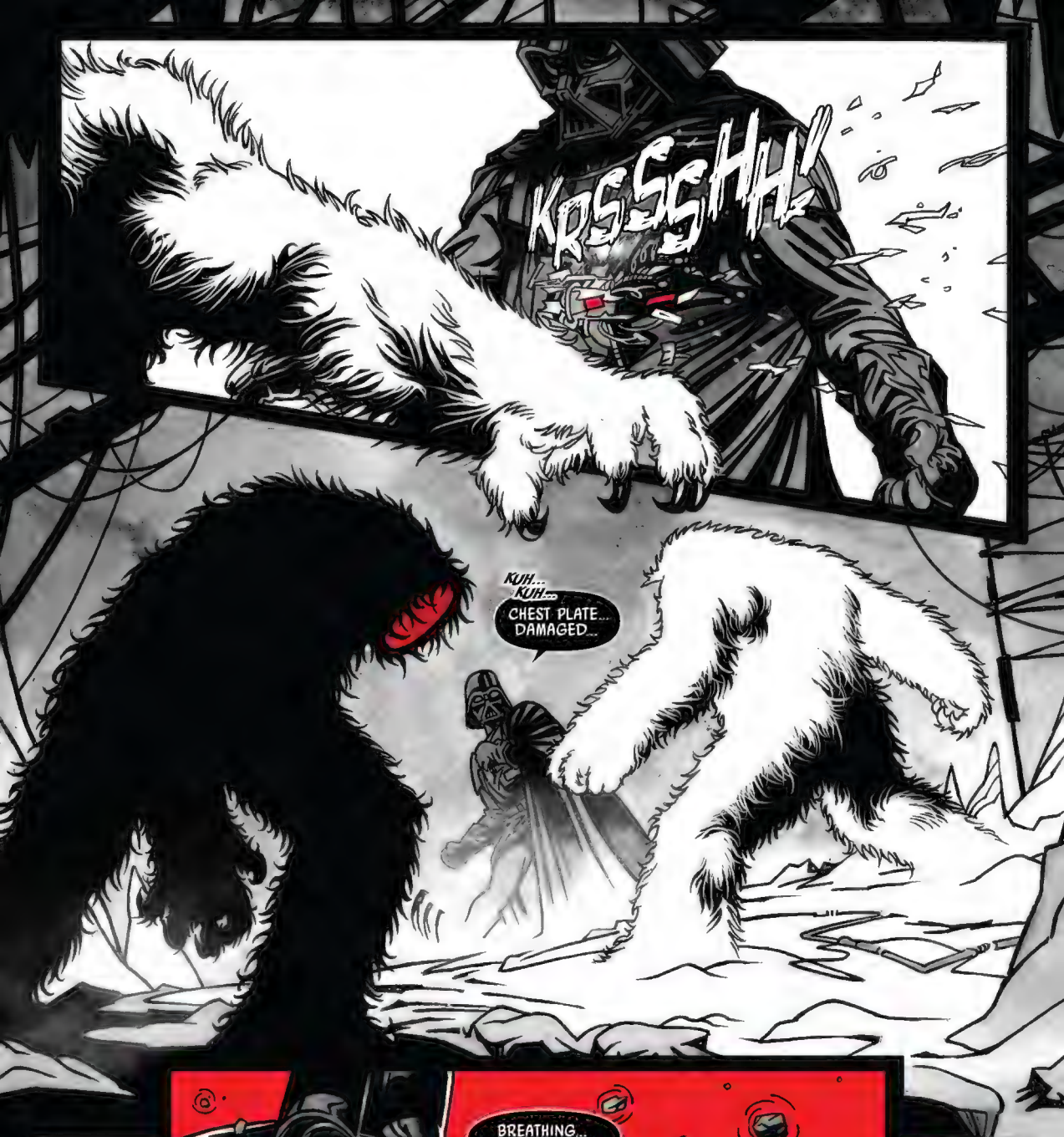


CLIENT!

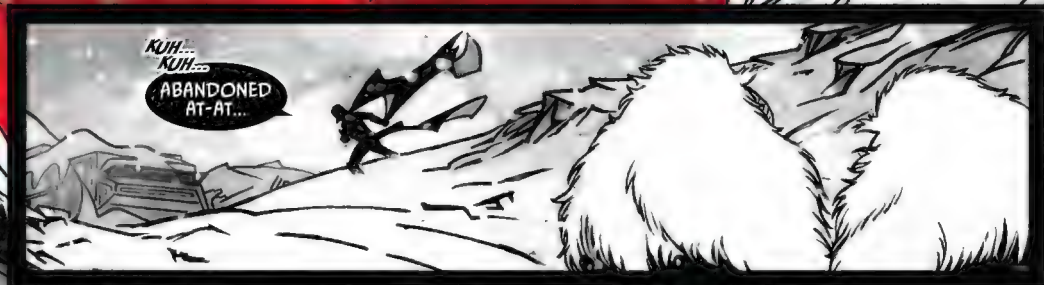
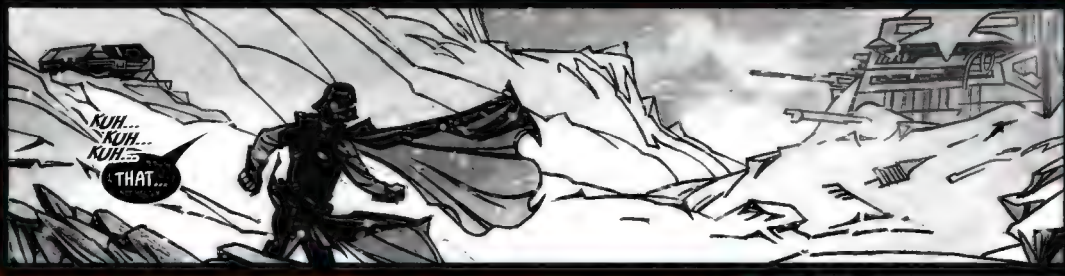


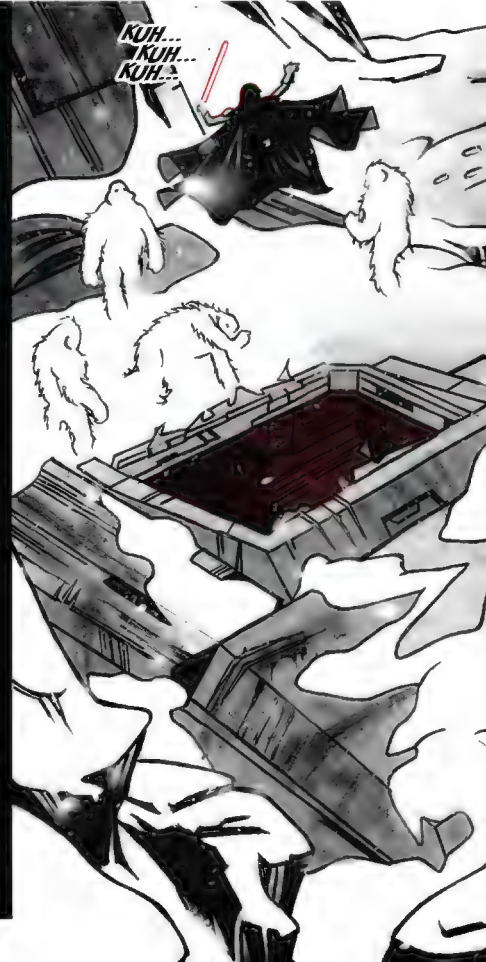












KUH...
KUH...

ARRRRHHHHH!

KRK!

VHFFMM!





KUH...
KUH...
KUH...

KUH...

GENERAL...

"WE HAVE
HIM."

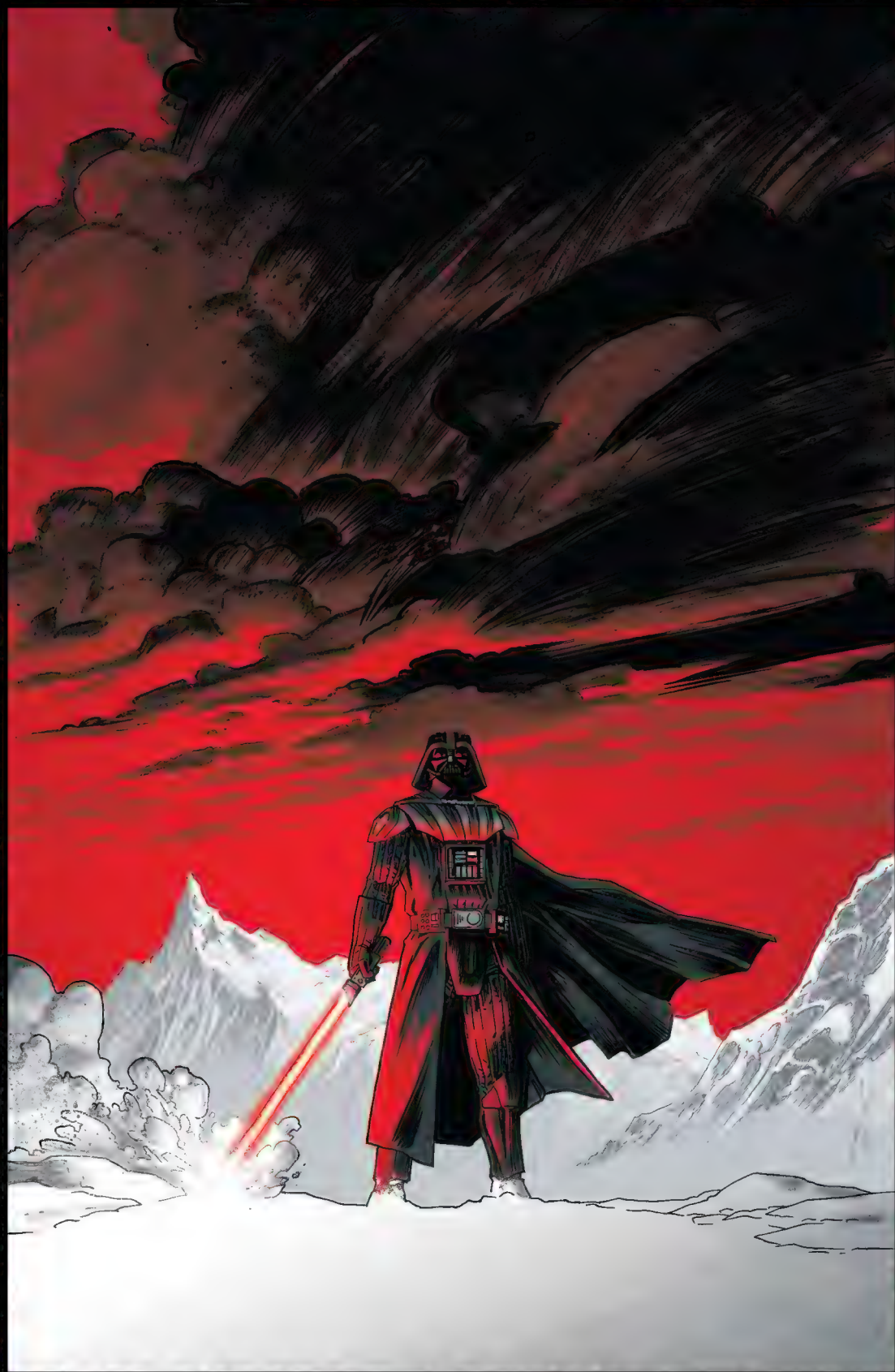


KUH...
KUH...

LORD VADER...
HOW PLEASED
I AM TO SEE WE WERE
ABLE TO RESCUE YOU.
DAMN THAT CURSED PLANET
AND THOSE CREATURES! I
DID CAUTION YOU
THOUGH THAT--

ACK!

End.



#2 Variant by
DECLAN SHALVEY



#2 Variant by
SALVADOR LARROCA



#3 Variant by
CARMEN CARNERO



#3 Variant by
NIC KLEIN



#4 Variant by
KEVIN EASTMAN



#4 Variant by
TONY DANIEL

EXCITING TALES FROM A GALAXY OF TALENTS FEATURING THE DARK LORD OF THE SITH!

JASON AARON RETURNS to the world of *Star Wars*, teaming with artist Leonard Kirk to present a new tale of terror! Peach Momoko spins a story in her signature style! Daniel Warren Johnson brings Vader to life like never before! David Pepose makes his *Star Wars* debut! Marc Bernardin takes Vader on a mission you won't soon forget! Frank Tieri sends the Sith lord to the planet Hoth! And Steve Orlando goes cerebral with the corruption of Darth Vader's mind! And more chilling tales of evil told in stark black and white — and the crimson glow of a lightsaber!

Collecting *Star Wars: Darth Vader - Black, White & Red* #1-4,
— by Torunn Grønbekk, Peach Momoko, Jason Aaron, David Pepose,
Victoria Ying, Daniel Warren Johnson, Marc Bernardin, Frank Tieri,
Steve Orlando, Klaus Janson, Leonard Kirk, Alessandro Vitti,
Marika Cresta, Stefano Raffaele, Daniel Earls, Paul Davidson,
Mark Morales, Romulo Fajardo Jr. and Andres Mossa.

MARVEL 

Disney 